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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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THE board of women managers of the Cotton States and International Exposition, which is to open in Atlanta in September next, has appointed a committee, of which Anne Wallace is chairwoman, with special reference to library relations. This committee desires to make a model library a feature of the exposition and it has been suggested that it would be proper for the Bureau of Education to loan the model library collected by the A. L. A. and exhibited in Chicago in 1893. Whether or not this be practicable, it is very desirable that this opportunity should be utilized to call the attention of the South to the importance of the public library movement. With the exception of the Howard Library in New Orleans, there have been few evidences that the South has caught the spirit of the modern library movement. There is no part of the country in which public progress could be better served by a development of free libraries than in the South, and it is to be hoped that all possible co-operation will be given to Miss Wallace, who is the librarian of the Young Men's Library of Atlanta, to show to the South what advantages may be gained by a local free library in each important centre of population.

It has been generally understood that the investigation on the part of the Treasury Department of the affairs of the Library of Congress implies no reflection upon Mr. Spofford, except a failure to keep the accounts of the library in the accurate shape required by government routine. As the *Publishers' Weekly* has said — "Mr. Spofford has always made the mistake of acting as his own office boy — or mailing clerk — overlooking the fact that no executive in charge of such extensive machinery as that of the Library of Congress and the Copyright Office must be, can afford to do his own detail work." This investigation is, however, doing some service in calling public attention to the fact that the methods of the Library of Congress are not fully up to the times. Now that the new building is nearly ready for occupancy, there will be no longer the old reason for that library falling below the modern standards of administration and usefulness, and it is to be hoped that with

the broadening of its physical environment there will also be a broadening of the spirit of administration. It would seem that even before the present library is completely finished, the present congestion should be relieved by occupying the space which is practically ready, and it may be suggested also that it would be very fitting should room be found in the basement of the new building for handling the government documents during the trying period when the vast accumulation stored here and there throughout Washington has to be sorted, distributed, or otherwise disposed of. Mr. Spofford has a splendid opportunity before him to do a large public service by making the most of his new building at the earliest possible date, and we trust he will not fail to improve it.

THE work done by the University of the State of New York in furthering library development in that state is admirably set forth by Mr. Eastman in the present issue of the JOURNAL. New York has never ranked with Massachusetts and other New England states in number of libraries; but the work accomplished by the regents within the past three or four years has brought it to the front in organization and efficiency. In that time they have succeeded in establishing an excellent standard for the libraries of the state, in largely awakening public interest in the subject, in reorganizing somnolent institutions and in establishing libraries in many cities and towns. The admirable example that has been set in this special field by Massachusetts, New York, and other states has within the present year had effect on several other states, and this influence will undoubtedly widen and strengthen with time. There is, indeed, a wide field for such influence. State libraries, as a rule, fall much below accepted library standards and fail to utilize the possibilities before them. This has been shown with special force in the compilation of the bibliography of state publications, forming an appendix to the American Catalog of 1890-95. The preparation of this material has been a labor of time and tribulation, and, though there has been a notable improvement over the

conditions of five years since, the work on the present list has nevertheless been hampered by difficulty in obtaining satisfactory responses — or any responses at all — from state librarians in the South, Southwest and West. Certainly the collection, organization, and arrangement of state publications is an essential function of a state library, and this is practicable when extensive machinery, such as that of New York, is out of the question. The need of better organization and more *esprit de corps* among state librarians might profitably be emphasized at the Denver Conference, and we would suggest that the A. L. A. exert its influence at that conference to raise the standard of library efficiency among those states that have not yet felt the spirit of the times in this respect.

News comes from Oshkosh, Wis., of a library bequest that is in a way a good example of "how not to do it." The sum of \$50,000 is left to the town in trust, for the purpose of "founding and maintaining perpetually a public library," provided, however, that within three years an equal sum be raised by the city, the citizens, or any person or persons, to be devoted to the same purpose. Under this condition it seems unlikely that the bequest will ever be put to any practical use. The legacy in itself is enough to establish an attractive and adequate library building and leave something over for books, while a provision requiring future support by the town with perhaps a minimum limit of income, would have fully met the problem of maintenance. It is, of course, just and wise that the givers of important benefactions should stimulate generosity in others by requiring additional bequests or local support, but such provisions when too onerous, will generally result in defeating the original purpose of the giver. Indeed, it becomes more and more evident in all fields of public work that bequests, to be thoroughly effective, should be left as free as proper safeguards admit, a principle that finds apt illustration in England, where the work of some of the largest and best-intentioned charities is hampered and crippled by testamentary restrictions. In the Oshkosh case the condition will not improbably render the entire bequest void; though there remains the consoling possibility that the tentative legacy will awaken public interest in the subject and result indirectly in the establishing, through local effort, of a public library on a smaller but no less useful scale.

Communications.

THE ASSISTANT—WHY ANONYMOUS?

JUST a word in comment on the "Anonymous Assistant" article, with which I have much sympathy though not entire agreement.

It seems to me very doubtful whether work of real originality and value is often hidden long under the veil of anonymity, unless, indeed, the worker is possessed of a kind and degree of modesty which is, in itself, a symptom of inherent weakness of character.

As a matter of fact the assistant has, to a certain extent, the stick in her own hands, to use the vernacular. If her trustees do not see that the value received is sufficient to warrant the expenditure involved in sending her to the A. L. A. meetings, let her go at her own expense, not only in money, but, if necessary, of the more precious vacation days. To do this may need self-denial; it will even, in some cases, involve real hardships; but it is, to my mind (and my experience too), a business investment for which hard-headed common-sense will see the necessity, and for which it will consequently find the way. When this has been done once or twice, if she has real capacity, brightness and originality, the brethren of the profession (if not the sisters) will not fail to recognize and covet these qualities for their own staffs. This will involve for the assistant opportunities which will call the attention of her chief and her trustees to her real and her market value; or else send her to "fresh fields and pastures new," where the growing thing may have sunshine and room.

In short, I haven't much opinion of the candle which doesn't burn the tushel.

ONE WHO HAS BEEN THERE.

LIBRARY ADVERTISING IN STREET CARS.

Is it not practicable to use the advertising spaces in the street-cars as a means of bringing library matters before the public? Every one knows how wearisome it is to read again and again — in spite of one's determination not to do so — the advertisements of patent medicines, soaps, ribbons, lamps, etc. Why not use some of the spaces to call attention to the location of the library and the hours of opening and closing? Perhaps it would be possible, if the library is in a town or small city where frequent changes would not be necessary, to bulletin some of the new books, or books on a special subject. Ten or fifteen titles, with their call numbers, could be given in the ordinary space allotted to a street-car advertisement and in type easily readable to the passengers sitting opposite.

MARGARET D. MCGUFFEY.

{ PUBLIC LIBRARY,
Boston.

A CORRECTION.

In the article on "The public use of college libraries," (L. J., July), there is a misprint in the paragraph on the University of Rochester. Instead of 1871, read 1877. S: H. RANCK.

{ KNOX PRATT FREE LIBRARY,
Baltimore.

THE LIBRARY WORK OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.*

By W: R. EASTMAN, *Public libraries division, U. S. N. Y.*

THE University of the State of New York is a supervisory and administrative, not a teaching institution. It is a state department, and at the same time a federation of over 600 institutions of higher and secondary education. It visits them officially, and they report to the university. Their academic and professional work is tested by university examinations.

The university law of 1892, besides being a compilation and revision of former laws, gave new and special prominence to the establishment of public libraries to be recognized as part of this educational system, and therefore to hold the charter and be under visitation of the university. An appropriation of \$25,000 for the benefit of free libraries being voted the same year, the library work was, for the first time, definitely organized.

This work is carried on along six lines:

1. Ascertaining library facts by annual reports and official inspection.
2. Giving advice and instruction on request.
3. Organizing and chartering libraries.
4. Distributing public library money.
5. Lending small libraries for a limited time.
6. Preparing and revising lists of best books.

1. *Reports.* Acquaintance with the facts is the foundation of all scientific work. The law provides that every library exempt from taxation shall report to the university. Exemption means that the state recognizes the public library as a public benefit, and this implies an undoubted right on the part of the state to know whether each collection of books claiming the privilege is a true public library or not. If it is a private business carried on for gain, it has no more claim on the favor of the state than the business of a bookseller.

The report blank used by the university covers the following facts: the name, location, and date of foundation of each library; the present number of volumes and number of additions by gift and purchase during the past year; the number of volumes issued for home use and for reference; the number of days the library has been open during the year, and the number of hours of opening fixed by rule for each week; the receipts of money and from what sources; the

payments of money and for what general purposes; class of books, ownership and control, support, terms of use, and name of librarian. These facts are by no means exhaustive, but when obtained they will enable us to count the libraries by classes, summarize their total volumes, additions and circulation, and, looking over the state, to locate its library resources and needs with some intelligent idea of the situation.

The next step was to compile a mailing list. A number of partial lists of New York libraries have appeared in the last few years, but not one that was entirely reliable. From all sources accessible an experimental list was made and used, with the result of sending report blanks to many institutions that had no libraries to speak of, and would not have been asked to report if the facts had been known. On the other hand, a great many libraries have been omitted, for, after three years of collecting statistics, a week seldom passes without bringing to notice some library not previously known to the department. It is esteemed a kindness when correspondents send in the names of unrecorded libraries. Returns from 700 libraries having each 300 or more volumes will soon be published.

The failure to obtain more complete returns will be understood by any collector who has tried to gather statistics by mail. In some cases the circulars of inquiry reach the library when officers are absent on vacation, and afterwards are overlooked through stress of work. Some librarians find it difficult to make their own accounts conform to the end of the academic year and postpone answering till too late. Some find their accounts in so loose a condition that they do not care to report. Some reports are written by librarians, referred to treasurers, pigeon-holed by trustees, and forgotten. Some may be lost in the mail. Now and then objection is made from a constitutional dislike to give account, or an ill-defined dread of acknowledging responsibility to the state; and many misunderstandings of the purpose and scope of the report hinder the full response for which we look. The aim of the university is to secure, for the common good, an accurate account of library facts — no more — and in this attempt it bespeaks the good-will and co-operation of the librarians of the state.

*Read at meetings of N. Y. L. A., New York, Jan. 11, 1895, and Buffalo, May 17, 1895.

The study of these returns will bring out some points of marked interest. A prominent fact is that the great number of public libraries in this state are to-day in the care of the school authorities. The legislation of 1835 and 1838, when New York began to push the public library idea by way of the school districts, is responsible for this. The libraries then founded were district libraries; as really public as the town libraries of New Hampshire or Massachusetts; and the most important of them, as they now exist, at Newburgh, Poughkeepsie, Binghamton, Rochester, Brooklyn, Oswego, Owego, etc., while managed by the school boards, are practically city libraries. But more have come to be regarded as school libraries only, in which the public have little or no share.

Out of 704 libraries reporting for 1894, 321 are public; that is, controlled by the voters or their representatives. Of these, 280 are in charge of school authorities, 128 more are connected with academies, 51 with colleges, and 86 with other institutions. This leaves 159 to include all those managed by the public independent of the schools, the endowed and mercantile libraries, and professional and technical collections of all sorts. The great libraries of the state belong to the class of endowed or mercantile.

Counting by libraries, not by volumes, our books are still in the hands of the teaching institutions, and, to a large extent, are gathered and administered with reference to the needs of the schools. There are great possibilities for good in just this situation, and, at the same time, there are public interests liable to be overlooked. An important feature of the legislation of 1892, repeated in the consolidated school law of 1894, was a provision for dividing district libraries in two parts; one to be kept by the school as a part of its equipment, and the other, the circulating part, to be put in charge of independent trustees as the beginning of a true public library. This law has contributed to the situation with which the university has had to deal.

In comparing the reports of the last year with those previously received, it has been interesting to note in many cases a serious falling off in the number of volumes, indicating, not a loss of books, but a tendency to count more carefully and to discriminate against worn and mutilated books and broken sets that were no longer fit for service. There appear also in the reports frequent apologies for imperfect and unsatisfac-

tory work and promises for the coming year, stating plans of enlargement and money in hand to be expended. "A better showing for next year," is the word. These things, slight as they are, mark a coming revival of library consciousness, starting with the knowledge that some one outside is interested in the welfare of each library, and proving that annual reports have an important power and place.

Inspection. Besides the ascertainment of facts by reports, the university inspector has the greater advantage of visiting the libraries to see for himself. When they seek the privileges of state aid it becomes his official duty to examine their quality, work, and methods, and report thereon as a condition of the aid to be given; and, aside from such a necessary office, he has found the most cordial welcome everywhere as a visitor. A call to a particular locality to discharge an official duty will often open the way for an extended library acquaintance. One city library that must be inspected furnishes a reason for visiting five others in that vicinity, with the possible result of awakening a new library interest and promoting reorganization, consolidation, or library enlargement in many ways. Those in charge of the small libraries will admit that they are sometimes lonely for lack of sympathy and appreciation of their work. The inspector finds them running over with questions. They want to know how things are done in New York and Albany, and how they ought to be done. It is their opportunity for the hour to touch the library system of the state, and may be helpful in many ways. Often the inspector is invited to meet committees, consult with boards of education, talk over library possibilities, and so prepare the way for a popular public library movement. In the year ending Sept. 30, 1894, he visited 62 libraries in 27 different counties, and, in three months since that date, he has visited 51 others.

2. Advice and instruction. Under the law the state library is open to library questions from any librarian, trustee, or other citizen interested to ask. The questions that come are not few, and the answers are not always easy. Most of the letters make general inquiries as to methods of establishing libraries and arranging the books for public use, and particular requests are usually made for explanation of points in the library law. In two years, correspondence has been held with over 400 places regarding library interests, and the attempt was made to give advice that would best fit the varying local conditions.

Library school. Under this head comes also the work of the university in conducting the library school, with its corps of experienced teachers and its 30 students pursuing a two years' course, crowned for the honor students with well-earned degrees of library science.

Expert assistance. Many also are the requests for temporary help in rearranging and cataloging libraries, to which a response can usually be made by sending an expert worker from the staff of the state library or from advanced students of the school for a longer or shorter time, as needed. At times this service is required for a month or more, and sometimes only for three or four days. Libraries pay for such services at current rates.

3. *Organisation and charter.* The next step in the work of the university is to organize libraries and receive them by charter, admission, or registry. The law gives the regents power to grant charters. The details are settled in consultation. If a charter is already held, it need not be surrendered unless the new standard charter is preferred. The university can either admit with existing charter or reincorporate. Either course constitutes the library an institution in the university, precisely as the great colleges are. Or, if for any cause, the libraries do not seek so close a relation, they may, on request and approval, be registered and have like privileges, though not so fully identified with the university.

Previous to 1892 there was one library chartered by the regents. In the years 1892-93, 26 were chartered and two admitted; the next year, 26 chartered and six admitted. Since Oct. 1, 1894, 20 have been chartered and six admitted. Adding eight that have been registered, the total number of libraries now under visitation (Mar. 1, 1895) is 95. Out of 73 chartered libraries, 44 include libraries transferred by the school authorities.

4. *Public library money.* A most practical and interesting part of the work is the distribution of public library money. \$25,000 a year have been given for three years, being placed in the hands of the regents for the benefit of free libraries, with three plain conditions. A library receiving aid must be free; an equal amount must be raised from local sources; and books bought with the money must be such as the regents approve. The rest is left to regents' rules. These rules require that the library shall be under state supervision; that the character of its books as a whole, its methods of work and keeping of

book accounts, shall merit approval, and that it conform to certain hours of opening, graded according to the size of the community, but sufficient in the judgment of the regents to entitle the library to be fairly counted free and public. Under these rules the essential condition is a connection of the library with the university either by charter, admission, or registry, marking it with honorable approval.

The formal application for money is then made, the amount being limited in most cases to \$200 a year, and certificate being made that an equal amount from local sources is already in hand. Each month an apportionment is made. The number of applications the first year was 44, the second year there were 84, and since Oct. 1, 1894, to March 5, 1895, 55 have been received, or 183 in all. A few have not been granted. 97 different libraries have shared in the distribution. Some have improved the privilege for three successive years. The money is placed in their hands on their agreement to spend it in accordance with the rules. When it has been spent, an account is rendered, containing a full list of the books bought and the cost of each one, and this total must be sufficient to account, not only for the public money, but for the equal amount raised at home. This list is examined in the regents' office, and for any book disapproved an equal amount must be spent for an approved book to balance the account and open the way for another grant when asked.

When small libraries are to be started or reorganized, it is not required that all the money should be used for books the first year, but a part may be used for shelves, cataloging, printing, services, and other like expenses. This provision has been specially useful in the small beginnings through which many village libraries have been struggling into existence.

5. *Travelling libraries.* A part of the public money has been used by the university in developing its system of lending small libraries for a limited time. Selections of 50 or 100 volumes each are lent to libraries or communities for six months, the university paying all expenses and receiving a fee of \$3 or \$5, according to the number of volumes sent. A full account of this system and its working may be read in the *Forum* for January, 1895, and need not be repeated.

The number of 125 libraries reported Oct. 1, 1894, increased to 178 by Jan. 1, 1895, and a marked feature of the work specially noticeable

in the last three months is the growing number of reading circles and clubs for home study which have registered in the university office and called for their privilege of travelling libraries. Any circle of readers in the state, when organized and ready to undertake serious study of a subject, having laid out a schedule of not less than ten weeks' work, may register at the regents' office, and thereupon borrow books selected by themselves bearing upon the subject of their study. For this privilege they make formal application and pay an advance fee of \$5 for 50 books, or \$3 for 25, unless they offer the books for free circulation to the public, in which case they need pay only the usual travelling library fee of \$5 for 100 books, or \$3 for 50.

Along all these lines the library correspondence of the university is constantly increasing. During the past year the number of places in the state indexed as considering library interests was increased by 200. Some inquiries may be prompted by curiosity, some by the vain hope of getting something for nothing out of a generous state, but most have borne the mark of an earnest and unselfish devotion to the interests of children, scholars, and friends. In the pinching times of the past two years this library

interest has commanded an attention in small communities that is remarkable.

6. *Lists of best books.* The travelling library lists cost much serious study. New general libraries of 50 volumes each are made up three or four times a year, under the supervision of the "book board," composed of five of the state library staff. There were, in Jan. 1895, 21 general lists, of which 11 include 100 volumes each, eight have 50 volumes each, and two have 25 juvenile volumes each. Subject lists on U. S. History, French history, Economics, and Agriculture, and to cover regents' reading courses in literature, are ready. Others are in course of preparation. Lists of books for schools, one to cost \$200, others \$300, \$400, and \$500, are being made. Others will follow as time is found for the work.

In all these things the university is the servant of the libraries, anxious to know in what way it can serve them best, seeking to promote popular interest, helping each one by the experience of the rest, advising in organization, certifying to good work done, publishing results from year to year, and seeking to maintain a standard of excellence to which all libraries will rejoice to conform.

THE SELECTION OF BOOKS FOR A PUBLIC LIBRARY.*

By J. N. LARNED, of the Buffalo Library.

THE end of a public library is public education—education of the whole people, in the large sense which comprehends all culture and every mode of advancement and elevation, in mind, in manners, in character. So the selection of books for a public library is always to be made with that end in view. To a certain point this gives us some quite definite principles of selection. The primary idea of education is an idea of imparted knowledge, and we easily feel ourselves on safe ground in collecting books of knowledge in our library—books of history, biography, science, philosophy, and their kin. Here, the only serious questions are between the best books in their several fields and the books which are less than the best, and generally it is practicable to decide these on most subjects of importance, not by any venturesome judgment of one's own, but by the standing which the books in question take

among people specially competent to appraise them. On that point I shall have something to say later on.

But it is not the books of knowledge which present the greater problems of selection to the librarian. Education in our broad sense does not end with knowledge, and a public library is not completed as an educational institution by the most exhaustive collection of the literature of philosophy and fact. To say this is to contradict the opinion of many people, who recognize few useful books outside that class. Their view is wrong. The total result of education of mankind is that which we call civilization, which means progress towards the finer and finer fitting of men and women for life in the social state. Most of us are too much inclined, I think, to measure the civilization of our own day by its Science, which is no true measure at all. The science of the present age has grown to be very wonderful; but, much as it may excite us to astonishment, there are fruits of civilization, even in

* From some remarks on the subject made to the Library School, at the New York State Library, May 28, 1895.

this crude period (and it is very crude), which command our admiration more. The finest and most beautiful human products of the time, whom even the Philistines would join us in choosing for honor, as exemplars to their generation, might not pass an examination in biology or physics. They are the men and women, sweet with the sweetness and luminous with the light which Matthew Arnold never tired of extolling, who represent that side of civilization which is refinement more than knowledge, or which is knowledge refined. I speak wrongly, however, when I say that refinement is *one side* of civilization, for it *is* civilization, and all science that lacks it is barbaric, even though steam-engines and the dynamos of Niagara are shaking the earth at its command.

Now, the refinements of life come chiefly from its pleasures. That is true to an extent which is sure to surprise us when we think of it first. Unfortunately, it is no less true that the meaner influences which vitiate and vulgarize life, making it gross and coarse, come from the pleasure side of existence, too. There the main sources of the two are together: on one hand, the springs of all art—music, poetry, romance, drama, sculpture, painting—brimmed with delights of the imagination and the joy of the beauty of the world; on the other hand, the muddy wells into which so many people choose perversely to dip.

These contrary influences are working in every region of pleasurable art, but nowhere else so actively as in the field of letters, and they give rise to the greatest difficulties that are met in the selection of books for a public library. In disseminating the literature which aims at pleasure-giving more than instruction, and at the moving of emotion more than thought, where can a proper line of restriction be drawn? Shall we, in the first place, incline to parsimony in the restriction, and yield no more of this literature than we must to the readers who demand it? I say, no; because, as I have asked you to note, there is a great stream in this channel from the very sources of refinement in civilization, and that stream should be unstintingly diffused. Against the other tide, which flows by the side of this one, but distinguished from it by a thousand mud-marks, we cannot build dikes too busily. On which of the two currents an offered book of entertainment has been floated to us is what we must know, if we can. Whether the book is alive with genius or dead with the lack of it, whether it be brilliant or commonplace,

whether skill or clumsiness appears in its construction, are not the first questions to be asked. The prior question, as I conceive, is this: *does the book leave any kind of fine and wholesome feeling in the mind of one who reads it?* That is not a question concerning the mere morality of the book, in the conventional meaning of the term. It touches the whole quality of the work as one of true literature. "Does it leave any kind of fine and wholesome feeling in the mind of one who reads it?" There is no mistaking a feeling of that nature, though it may never seem twice the same in our experience of it. Sometimes it may be to us as though we had eaten of good food; at other times like the tasting of wine; at others, again, like a draught of water from a cool spring. Some books that we read will make us feel that we are lifted as on wings; some will make music within us; some will give us visions; some will just fill us with a happy content. In such feelings there is a refining potency that seems to be equalled in nothing else. The simplest art is as sure to produce them as the highest. We take them from Burns' lines to a field-mouse, from Wordsworth's "Poor Susan," from the story of Ruth, from the story of "The vicar of Wakefield," from the story of "Picciola," from the story of "Daddy Darwin's dovecote," as certainly as from "Hamlet" or from "Henry Esmond." The true pleasure, the fine pleasure, the civilizing pleasure to be drawn from any form of art is one which leaves a distinctly wholesome feeling of some such nature as these which I have tried to describe; and the poem, the romance, the play, the music, or the picture which has nothing of the sort to give us, but only a moment of sensation and then blankness, does no kind of good, however innocent of positive evil it may be.

If the wholesome feeling which all true art produces, in literature or elsewhere, is unmistakable, so, too, are those feelings of the other nature which works of an opposite character give rise to. Our minds are as sensitive to a moral force of gravitation as our bodies are sensitive to the physical force, and we are as conscious of the downward pull upon us of a vulgar tale or a vicious play as we are conscious of the buoyant lift of one that is nobly written. We have, likewise, a mental touch, to which the texture of coarse literature is as distinct a fact as the grit in a muddy road that we grind with our heels. And so I will say again that the conclusive test for a book which offers pleasure rather than

knowledge is in the question, "Does it leave any kind of wholesome and fine feeling in the mind of one who reads it?"

All this which I am saying is straightly opposed to a doctrine much preached in our day, by a school of pretenders in art, who have gained such a hearing by their talkativeness that they are seriously dangerous. It first appeared, I believe, in France, among the painters. French literature took infection from it; then England became diseased, and America is in peril. It is the false and ignorant doctrine which phrases itself in the meaningless motto—"Art for Art's sake!" "Pursue Art for Art's sake—enjoy Art for Art's sake!" say these æsthetic prophets of our generation, who have no comprehension of what Art is. As well talk of sailing a ship for the ship's sake—of wheeling a cart for the cart's sake—of articulating words for the words' sake. Art is a vessel, a vehicle, for the carriage and communication of something from one mind to another mind—from one soul to another soul. Without a content, it has no more reason for its being than a meaningless word could have in human speech. Considered in itself and for its own sake, it has no existence—it is an imposture—a mere simulation of Art; for that which, duly filled with meanings and laden with a message,

would be Art, is then but the handicraft of a skillful mechanic.

But the truth is that there is a cunning deceit in this pretension to "Art for Art's sake." Those who lead the cry do not mean what their words seem to imply. They do not mean the emptiness that one might suppose. What they do mean, as their practice proves, is to put something ignoble in the place of what should be noble, something vulgar or something vile in the place of what should be wholly pure and wholly fine. What they are really striving to do is to degrade the content of Art, and to persuade the world that it can be made the vehicle of low suggestions and mean ideals without ceasing to be Art in the noble sense.

In literature, the workers to that end are nowadays very busy, and the countenance they receive is disheartening to see. It is for us who are among the custodians of good literature to set our faces against them. I offer you as the one most important maxim that can be laid down for your guidance in the selection of books—Beware of the literature of the school which preaches "Art for Art's sake."

So much for the theory of the matter. It is a theory that we may not be able, perhaps, to wholly carry out, but it is our duty to go as far in that way as we can.

THE TRAINING OF LIBRARY EMPLOYEES.—III.

BY ADELAIDE R. HASSE.

ACCESSION WORK.

IN almost all libraries the general routine is based in the main upon identical lines, differing only in so far as these are influenced by local conditions. So all libraries support a purchasing department, whose chief adjunct is the accession department. Since the card system has been extended to other than cataloging purposes, the librarian has delegated to the staff the care of a large part of the work of the purchasing department, such as keeping records of books to be purchased, books ordered, periodical subscriptions, etc. Here belongs also the filing and indexing of correspondence, and, as much of this work must come from the librarian's office, some attention should be given here to the relations of the librarian with the board, the filing of committee reports, the indexing of the minute book, the form of the librarian's monthly reports to the board, the preliminary arrangements attendant upon meetings of the board, etc. Encourage

the inventive faculty of pupils in matters of filing and arrangement; never hesitate to acknowledge defects in your own methods. Bright pupils have often been led in this way to develop an interest which resulted in valuable suggestions.

Purchasing Books: Pupils having been required to submit monthly lists of new books, with references where obtained, etc., they are now more or less familiar with all the book reviews to be found in the library. Let them extend their acquaintance to at least all the American and the leading English book reviews, by reporting upon the scope, special features, departments, editorship, manner of publication, whether m., w. or qr., etc., price, size, address, how long established, etc. To do this the person in charge of the class should have provided sample copies of the reviews; lists published by periodical agencies; the *Review of Reviews* indexed, in place of which the monthly index may be used,

etc. These, with publishers' catalogs, comprise the tools by the aid of which the average public library compiles its order lists.

To acquaint the pupils at once with publishers, their specialties, catalogs, etc., set them to work in some such manner as this:

Prepare a list of five largest American publishing firms, firm-name, place of business, with at least three important publications of each.

Same, English.

Name five English and five American second-hand dealers, giving firm-name, place of business, etc.

Name American publishing houses making a specialty of the following: maps, atlases, etc.; medical books; complete editions of American authors; engineering; photography; translations, music, etc.

Who publishes the following: Variorum Shakespeare; Story of the nations; red line edition of the poets; Contemporary science ser.; International education ser.; Sacred books of the East, etc.?

References: *Publishers' Weekly*; "American Catalogue," with supplements; "Trade List Annual;" "Annual Catalogues;" "A. L. A. Catalog;" *Publishers' Circular*; Whitaker's "Reference Catalogue;" Low's Catalogues; Sonnenschein, 1st and 2d eds.; Poole.

Let the pupils early form the habit of using reference books, and require of them, when submitting the result of such exercises as the above, to include a list of the reference books which they have used, other than those which have been suggested, thereby giving an indication of their own ability of research.

Let pupils prepare model forms for ordering books; fill out all blanks used by the library in ordering books; examine blanks of other libraries, etc. For practice many of these exercises may be typewritten, or when done in manuscript, a good library hand should be insisted on.

Pupils should have explained to them in this connection the system of average library discounts; cost of transportation by freight, book post, mail; an outline of copyright laws; of the laws governing the importation of foreign books. References: Indexes in volumes of *Publishers' Weekly*; U. S. Official Postal Guide; Putnam, "Law of copyright."

Periodicals: Many libraries now number among their most desirable features the circulation of periodicals, and almost every library carries a large stock for reference. Exercises

covering this ground may be given to pupils as follows: Prepare lists of leading American periodicals specially devoted to economics, music, art, industry, education, women, drama, engineering, history, electricity, science, agriculture, outdoor sports, juvenile interests, etc., stating any decided points of variance among magazines of one subject, place where published, size, cost, how long published, important contributions, etc. Prepare a subscription list of your own selection.

Let pupils make their own selections of the above without suggestions; have the lists compared in class; let pupils defend all questioned selections. Give some attention with pupils to subject of filing of current periodicals; of temporary binders, varieties, advantages and cost; of binding of periodicals for circulation and reference; of the various uses to which periodicals may be put (see ann. rpt. Los Angeles P. L., 1893-4).

Pupils should be taught methods of keeping subscriptions, expirations, etc., in both card and ledger systems. See L. J., and Denver P. L. "Handbook"; "Hints for small libraries," Plummer.

Newspapers: Newspapers were a feature of public libraries before periodicals had begun to be considered as within their province. Let pupils prepare lists of leading newspapers of various political parties, leading German-American papers, also French and Italian, showing where and by whom published, cost, how often issued, etc. Study newspaper files; systems of checking receipt of newspapers; methods of caring for old files; care of clippings; binding, etc.

In a public library it will be quite impossible for even one person to take the time to oversee a continuous course of work such as the above; and it should therefore be scheduled in relays, as suggested in the July L. J., or it may be given for "busy work" in instalments during those hours when the pupil is not actually employed in one of the departments.

For a guide in the practical work of the accession department use the Library School accession rules; have pupils make a note of the specifications for an order for an accession book. Fac-simile sheets of the accession book should be furnished them, or they should rule them themselves, and fill them out with sample entries of various kinds of books, such as newspapers, books of more than one volume, periodicals, maps, music, etc.

A BRIEF SKETCH OF SOME OF THE LIBRARIES IN CHICAGO.*

By W. B. WICKERSHAM.

BEFORE the great fire of 1871, Chicago had no public library, nor was there any statute in the state authorizing the establishment of one. After the fire, for many years the Public Library was almost the only institution of its kind through which the public had access to books. The Law Institute, the Chicago Historical Society, and the Academy of Sciences were early re-established, but they were so crippled, especially the last two, that they were some years getting into operation. The city was busy repairing the breaches and little interest was taken in educational or literary institutions beyond the rebuilding of schools for the small army of children everywhere demanding attention. Later, public sentiment took a stride forward and encouraged a higher and broader culture by establishing the Athenæum, Manual Training Schools, the Art Institute, the Newberry Library, the great Chicago University, the Armour Institute, the Field Museum, and the prospective John Crerar Library and the Lewis Polytechnic Institute. All these, to say nothing of university extension centres and of clubs and classes galore, go to show that Chicago is at present wide awake on the question of education and culture.

In the old Metropolitan block before the great fire of 1871 there existed the only library of any considerable size in the city of Chicago. This collection of some 18,000 or 20,000 volumes was owned by an association called the Chicago Library Association, and was accessible only to members who paid \$5 a year for membership. The association was understood to be deeply in debt, and its destruction by the flames October 9, 1871, may have been an unlooked-for piece of good luck to the stockholders, who would thus be spared the more tedious operation of being sold out by a receiver under an order of court.

When the news of the burning of Chicago reached England, the people there, in common with the inhabitants of all civilized countries, began making contributions of clothing, blankets, money, etc., for our stricken city. Among them were some, however, who thought that a more substantial gift than food and raiment would be acceptable. At the suggestion of Mr. Burgess, then secretary of the Anglo-American Society in London, the Hon. Thomas

Hughes, its president, called a meeting of that association and proposed that while others were sending to Chicago something for our bodies, they should contribute something for our minds. Supposing that Chicago had lost a great free public library, Mr. Hughes contributed copies of his "Tom Brown's school days" and "Tom Brown at Oxford," and set about among his friends, authors and publishers, to make a collection of books for a nucleus for a new free library, and as a result of his efforts about 5000 volumes were contributed, the Government sending hundreds of valuable public documents and state papers. Among this interesting collection are books given by the Queen with her autograph, others by Thomas Carlyle, John Bright, Lord and Lady Trevelyan, etc.

As soon as official word reached Chicago that such a gift was being collected, a number of enterprising citizens met at the call of the Hon. Joseph Medill, the mayor at that time, and prepared a bill authorizing cities and villages of Illinois under certain restrictions to organize and maintain free public libraries and reading-rooms. This bill was taken to Springfield, where the committee found a similar bill, which had been introduced into the House on March 23, 1871, and had passed to a second reading. This bill was amended, hurried through with an emergency clause attached, and signed by the governor March 7, 1872. The establishment of the Chicago Public Library by the city council and the appointment by the mayor of a board of nine directors to manage it, followed in close succession.

On the 20th of July, 1872, the writer was elected secretary and acting librarian by the board. When he reported for duty there was nothing put into his hands or charge except the record book and a few letters. For some time he had no office save an old chair kindly loaned him by Mr. C. J. Richardson, then, as now, assistant librarian of the Law Institute, in whose office in the temporary City Hall, at the corner of La Salle and Adams streets, known as the "Rookery," the use of the chair was allowed. In a few weeks new rooms in the same building were completed for the library, and about the same time books began to arrive from England. It was a notable day for the Chicago Public Library, that 31st of August, 1872, when on temporary shelves in one of the office rooms the first book was placed in position, that book being John Bright's "Speeches on questions of public policy."

The growth of the library was rapid. Many citizens of Chicago, whose homes had escaped the flames of the great conflagration, gave liberally from their libraries, and as soon as appropriations became available the board commenced to purchase books generously.

England was not alone in the contribution of literature towards the formation of a new library in Chicago. Germany, France, Bohemia, and some other countries also forwarded valuable collections.

* Part of a paper read before the Chicago Library Club, March 8, 1895.

On the first day of January, 1873, the reading room was formally opened to the public. Invitations had been sent out to many citizens, and the new room was comfortably filled. Speeches were made by the president of the board, the late Hon. Thomas Hoyne, by Director Daniel L. Shorey, Mayor Medill, and others. And so the new library was dedicated and started on its mission.

On the 25th of October, 1873, the board elected the late lamented Dr. W. F. Poole librarian, who entered upon his duties January 1, 1874. Dr. Poole had had large experience, having been librarian of the Boston Athenæum for many years, and later of the Cincinnati Public Library for six years or more, and to his wise selection of books the Chicago Public Library owes much of its present completeness and prosperity.

The library was opened to the public as a circulating library, on the southeast corner of Madison street and Wabash avenue, on the first day of May, 1874, and as such took rank at once among the first in the country. One year later it was removed to the southwest corner of Lake and Dearborn streets, where it remained until the early summer of 1886, when it found a home in the City Hall. It is hoped that another and final move to its new building on Michigan avenue, between Randolph and Washington streets, will be made in the spring of 1896.

On July 23, 1887, Dr. Poole resigned the librarianship of the public library, and accepted a similar position at the head of the Newberry Library, which post he held until his death over one year ago. On October 15, 1887, Mr. Frederick H. Hild was elected Dr. Poole's successor as librarian of the public library. Mr. Hild had been for many years the Doctor's assistant, and, though a young man, was well qualified for the responsible position. If any fears were entertained at the time, the rapid growth and development of the library ever since give evidence of the wise selection of the board.

At the present writing there are in the library 207,000 volumes, the annual net accessions being about 10,000 volumes. The circulation of books for home use during the year ended May 31, 1894, was 1,027,219 volumes, of which 446,168 were issued through the delivery stations. The average daily circulation of books for home use at the present time is 4253. The largest circulation of books for home use in any one day was on February 23, 1895, when 7731 volumes were issued. 52,663 persons hold cards entitling them to draw books for home use.

The books on the shelves of the public library cover all fields of literature, science, and art. The general plan laid down by Dr. Poole, that of making it an all-around library, has been adhered to by his successor. No department can hardly be said to be more complete than the others, though in bound and complete sets of periodical literature the collection is surpassed by few libraries in the country.

While keeping in view the needs of the masses, the board has also been quite liberal in the purchase of books for the student and scholar, though it has never felt that it was the province

of the people's library to supply expensive volumes either in art or science. Yet, notwithstanding this general policy, the board has supplied a good many valuable and expensive works in the line of art which were demanded and which could not be found elsewhere. Among the donations of our English friends is a complete set of the specifications and drawings of the British Patents. There being only a few sets in this country, and the reports being wholly out of print, they are exceedingly valuable. The library also has a complete set of specifications and drawings of the United States Patents, as well as those of France, Germany, and Canada. All these are in a room by themselves where they can be freely examined.

The public library is supported by a tax levied upon all the taxable property within the city, the limit up to the present time being not to exceed one-half of one mill on the dollar of valuation. It has required the full half-mill for some years to provide for the current expenses, which amount in round numbers to \$125,000, and in view of the additional expense of maintaining the library in its new building, the board has asked the present General Assembly to amend the law and make the limit one mill. This amount, with the present assessed valuation of property, will be just sufficient for its needs.

In 1884 the board tried the experiment of opening a few places remote from the centre of the city where book borrowers could exchange their books without the time and expense necessary for a trip to the main library. These places were called delivery stations. They soon grew into popularity, until at the present time 32 are in successful operation. Many of the stations are located so as to accommodate the laboring classes, and books left in the morning as the laborer goes to his work are charged during the day, and a fresh volume is ready for him as he goes home in the evening. All this at no expense whatever to the book borrower. More than one-third of all the books circulated are issued through this channel. In October, 1890, the experiment of branch reading rooms was begun. Six store rooms were rented, fitted up with tables, bookcases, etc., and supplied with a good collection of reference books and periodicals. These rooms have become very popular and are patronized by all classes of citizens. Pupils and teachers of schools in their vicinity are especially benefited by them. So great was the demand for books of a general and popular nature that the board added to the reference books several hundred volumes of standard works, including some fiction. At the present time the total number of volumes in these rooms is about 10,000.

As an adjunct to the schools, an arrangement was made many years ago with the board of education whereby books might be ordered by the principal of the school for collateral reading by the pupils on the subjects being pursued, in which case the books are kept one month without renewal, the board of education being responsible for their safety and return. In addition to this the librarian permits and encourages teachers in the high schools and seminaries,

as well as those of private classes, to bring their pupils to the library, where all the best books illustrating their particular theme are laid out before them, and they can spend an hour or so in uninterrupted study with their instructor.

The management of the public library has been such that very few books have been lost through circulation or theft. Besides the theft of a Webster's Dictionary or two and a few volumes of Appleton's Cyclopaedia, which were dropped to the street from a window of the reference-room while the library was located at Madison street and Wabash avenue, the only theft of any moment occurred about ten years ago, when one of the employes of the library, who on trial proved to be a veritable bibliomaniac, carried off and secreted in a barn more than 2000 volumes, many of them valuable works of reference. His shrewdness only served him in getting the books out of the library without detection, for he made no attempt apparently to dispose of them, and when asked why he took them said that he intended to return them as soon as he had read them. All but a few were recovered.

THE NEWBERRY LIBRARY.

The library next in importance to the general public of Chicago is the Newberry, located in the North Division of the city. This library was founded on July 1, 1887, under a provision of the will of Walter L. Newberry, deceased, which set aside one-half of his estate therefor, after the death of his wife and two daughters. This half, on the date above mentioned, amounted to \$2,149,201, most of which was in real estate, much of it at that time unproductive. On the 13th of the same month Dr. W. F. Poole was elected librarian and entered upon his duties August 1.

This library contains at the present time 124,500 volumes and 30,600 pamphlets. It is for reference only and makes a specialty of music, medicine, and religion; being also strong in American history, bibliography and incunabula. There are no juvenile books on the shelves and no fiction as a rule. About \$25,000 are expended annually for books. The number of readers for the year ended March 1, 1895, was about 100,000. The number of volumes used during the same time was 110,177. The present use of the books, however, is about 1000 volumes per day. The number of employes in the library proper is about 35. The Rudolph Indexer has been recently introduced and the entire subject of bibliography is now indexed. It is the intention to catalog the entire collection of books by the indexer for public use.

The Newberry Library has a new home of granite on Walton place, facing Washington Square, of which it may justly be proud. The death of Dr. Poole in the spring of 1894 left a vacancy which was but recently filled by the election of Mr. John Vance Cheney, late of the public library of San Francisco.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LIBRARY.

The University of Chicago Library, presided over by Mrs. Zella A. Dixon, was founded

with the university in 1891. The number of volumes on the shelves is reported at 295,000, which no doubt includes pamphlets. They consist for the most part, according to a recent compilation, of works on biblical literature, church history, homiletic and systematic theology, political economy, sociology, history, science, and ancient classics.

This library is maintained by a special appropriation by the trustees of the university, and by a fee of \$10 per year required of each student attending the school; to which is added rent fees on travelling libraries. The fund for the maintenance of this library must be very generous, as the number of volumes added each year is reported at 25,000.

A special feature is department libraries, which are located in the class-rooms and are for reference only. They consist of choice reference books bearing upon the particular branch of science taught in that room.

THE ARMOUR INSTITUTE LIBRARY.

The Armour Institute Library, of which Miss Katherine L. Sharp is librarian, was founded in January, 1893, and consists of 11,000 volumes. It is maintained, like the other departments of the institute, from the generous pocket-book of Mr. P. D. Armour, its founder. As the accounts of no complete year of its existence are accessible, the annual expenditures are not definitely known. The library is chiefly for reference, with access to the shelves, so that no statistics of the use of the books are kept. The books are mostly scientific, free to all, some books being circulated among teachers and students and a few to outsiders.

An interesting feature of this library is its library or training class, which is limited to 18 in number, the course of study extending over two years, though there is such a demand for trained help in libraries that no one has remained to complete the full course.

Another feature is its system of home libraries. By this system a few choice books are placed in some private house under the care of one of its inmates, and the books are allowed to be read by the members of the family and by a certain number of the near neighbors, the only requirement being that the books shall be kept as clean as possible and be otherwise properly cared for, and returned when read. Once a week a member of the library class visits the house where the library is stationed and talks or reads to the children who are collected for that purpose. Sometimes she exhibits pictures or other works of art and explains them to the boys and girls, who are eager listeners. After the books have all been read, which requires from two to three months, the library travels on to another section of the city. Only books suitable for children are placed in these libraries, and if any book is found to be unpopular, it is at once replaced by another.

CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY.

The Chicago Historical Society was organized on June 9, 1856, though it did not receive its charter until the following year. The general

object of the society is to encourage historical inquiry and spread historical information, especially within the state of Illinois. One of the first provisions of the constitution is for the establishment of a library of books and publications appropriate to such an institution.

In 1868 the society completed a building supposed to be fireproof on the corner of Ontario street and Dearborn avenue, and moved in, but had hardly got settled when the fire of 1871 swept the building, which cost \$60,000, and its contents, which had cost vastly more, out of existence. As no report had been made after the removal to its new home, the exact number of volumes in the library at the time of the fire is unknown, but in 1868 it had 15,412 bound volumes, 72,104 pamphlets, 1738 files of newspapers, 4689 manuscripts, 1200 maps and charts, 380 cabinet specimens, and 4682 miscellaneous prints, etc. Its collection of public documents both of the United States Government and of the territorial and state governments of Illinois were exceptionally complete.

After the fire liberal contributions were made to the society by similar societies and by other learned societies, as well as by individuals. These were stored temporarily in rooms on Michigan avenue owned by Mr. J. V. Scammon, a member of the society, and in the second great fire which occurred July 14, 1874, this valuable nucleus was totally destroyed. At the present time there are in the library about 20,000 volumes and 40,000 pamphlets. This collection is soon to be housed in a new fireproof building on the old site, to cost \$150,000. With a book fund of \$4500 per year the library should make vigorous strides forward.

JOHN CRERAR LIBRARY.

The John Crerar Library can really be said to be prospective only, inasmuch as nothing has been done beyond planning. John Crerar died in Chicago, October 19, 1889. His commercial ventures had been successful, and after devising liberal bequests to his relatives, friends, and public charities, he left the remainder of his estate in trust for the establishment of a public library. The amount so left is estimated at two and one-half million dollars. Messrs. Norman Williams and Huntington W. Jackson were appointed by the will executors of the estate, with power to add to their number for the management of the library. The only stipulations in the will restricting the executors in the formation of the library were that it should be in the south division of the city and that trashy novels — particularly French novels — should not be admitted to the shelves. Only a few steps have been taken up to the present time. Having obtained the passage of an act by the General Assembly authorizing the incorporation of boards of trustees for the management of libraries provided for by will, 11 well-known gentlemen were chosen, who, with the executors, organized under the new law. They have decided that the library shall be for reference only; that it shall be a purely scientific library, and that only the income from the main bequest shall be used

for all expenses. This amount is estimated to be about \$100,000.

No location has been chosen for a building. Indeed it will be some years yet before any steps can be taken in that direction, as there must be a saving of the cost of the building from the annual income. Temporary quarters are to be selected, however, and we may soon have the satisfaction of seeing the long-talked-of library actually on its feet.

THE CHICAGO LAW INSTITUTE.

The Chicago Law Institute was organized in 1857 under a charter granted by the General Assembly of the state of Illinois. Its main object was the collection of a comprehensive law library in this city. On the 8th of October, 1871, it had on its shelves 7000 volumes valued at \$30,000. It had complete sets of all American law reports; all reports of the English courts; many of the Scotch and Irish reports; the law journals of the United States and England, besides text-books and treatises of law, ancient and modern, English, federal, and state statutes, etc. All these were lost in the great fire of 1871, and of the \$20,000 insurance, only about \$2500 could be collected on account of the insolvency of most of the companies. This amount, with something over \$1300 in the treasury at the time, formed the nucleus for a new library. On November 6, 1871, the annual meeting was held amid the still smoking ruins of the old court-house, the institute's former home, and a resolution was passed to relay the foundations of the library. To that end an assessment for the current year amounting to one-fourth of the par value of the stock of the shareholders was levied. Provision was made for the admission of new members and a board of managers was selected from among the most eminent members of the profession. A room was set aside for the use of the institute in the old Rookery building, where it remained until its removal to the new court-house. It now contains 20,000 volumes, and the annual accessions are 1250. The daily use of the books is 2500. The total cost of maintaining the library is about \$10,000, which is derived from membership fees, assessments, interest, etc.

CHICAGO ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

The Chicago Academy of Natural Sciences was organized in 1857 by 12 public-spirited gentlemen who subscribed \$1500 with which to make a beginning. A room was taken on the corner of Lake and Clark streets and a few cases for specimens were made, but before the museum was fairly on its feet the financial panic of that year so paralyzed business that for two years very little was done.

In 1859, to place the institution on a firmer basis, it was incorporated under the general law of the state as "The Chicago Academy of Sciences," its object being "the increase and diffusion of scientific knowledge by a museum, a library, by the reading and publication of original papers, and by such other suitable methods as shall from time to time be adopted."

In 1862, Mr. Robert Kennicott, the first director of the museum, returned from an extensive trip throughout British North America, bringing many specimens of natural history. Although this expedition was made in the interest of the Smithsonian Institution, the academy was furnished with duplicates of nearly everything collected, and rooms for the enlarged museum were taken at the corner of Randolph and La Salle streets. After a partial destruction by fire in 1866, a lot was purchased on Wabash avenue near Van Buren street. A building supposed to be fireproof was erected upon part of this lot, and it was occupied in January, 1868.

The books in the library were essentially scientific—many of them being transactions of learned societies. The supposed safety of this building induced several persons to deposit in it their collections of scientific books, as well as many special collections of specimens. The growth of the library as well as of the museum seemed assured. On the 9th of October, 1871, this building and its entire contents—library, manuscripts, and specimens—were swept away by the great fire, but within 12 days thereafter steps were taken towards the restoration of the academy. It was determined to rebuild on the same site and nearly on the same plan. The new building was completed in the fall of 1873. The library was upon the first floor and contained in 1877 about 1500 volumes, with some hundreds of pamphlets.

But this valuable collection was destined to be disturbed in its peaceful occupation of its home. Money had been borrowed for the erection of the building and it was impossible to meet payments. The result was a foreclosure and a surrender of the property. For some years many of the specimens were exhibited in the Exposition building on the lake front, the remainder, with the library, being stored. Two or three years ago the question of another attempt at a home for the academy came to the front. The Lincoln Park commissioners, under authority granted by a recent statute, provided the location and part of the funds, but to the munificence of Matthew Lafin and his sons the public is mainly indebted for the beautiful and imposing building now adorning the park. The academy has but recently taken possession of its new quarters, and begins its new career with 4000 volumes of scientific works upon its shelves, besides a vast number of valuable specimens, which are rapidly being put in position under the direction of the well-known scientist, Dr. S. H. Peabody.

THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO.

This institution was incorporated May 24, 1879, and was the first movement towards a revival of the art interests after the great fire. It offers courses of instruction in drawing and painting, sculpture, designing and architecture, the last being in connection with Armour Institute, whose scientific equipment, including its library of 11,000 volumes, is at the disposal and use of all pupils in this department.

After a sojourn in temporary quarters for three years, in 1882 the property at the south-

west corner of Michigan avenue and Van Buren street was bought for \$45,000 and a structure erected. In 1885, additional ground was purchased and a brown stone building was erected the succeeding year. By 1892, the building was outgrown, the property was sold for \$425,000, and the money was put into the new building on Michigan avenue at the head of Adams street. The institute in all its departments, under the experienced hand of the director, Mr. W. M. R. French, is in a flourishing condition and is being rapidly made more valuable and attractive by the addition of works of art.

The library of the institute, of which Miss J. L. Forrester is librarian, consists of about 1500 volumes, most of which are strictly reference books and cannot be taken from the building. The most valuable acquisition of the library is the gift by Dr. D. K. Pearsons of the publications of Braun & Co., of Paris, comprising about 18,600 large carbon photographs or autotypes, being reproductions of paintings, drawings and sculpture of the best-known galleries of Europe. They are much used by pupils and are highly prized. The expenses of the library are met by the matriculation fees of students. This amount is about \$600 per annum. Books are loaned to members of the institute and to pupils, and the reference books are much used by the latter. 1716 books were loaned to pupils during the two years ended June 1, 1894.

THE FIELD COLUMBIAN MUSEUM.

In March, 1894, the Field Columbian Museum was formally established. The museum grew out of the Columbian Exposition, becoming, as it were, the residuary legatee of many of the exhibitors. In addition to donations received, the directors of the museum made large purchases of valuable exhibits from individuals and governments that could not part with their treasures without remuneration. This they were enabled to do through the munificence of Marshall Field, of Chicago, for whom the museum was named and whose gift of \$1,000,000 placed the new institution on a substantial foundation at once.

Mr. Edward L. Burchard, the librarian, reports at the present time about 9000 titles, of which about 2000 are valuable pamphlets. These books consist in large measure of special libraries, and some were received direct from the departments where they were exhibited during the Columbian Exposition. Thus the museum contains the special libraries from the Departments of Ethnology and Mines and Mining, and the collection of books on transportation and railroads from the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad's exhibit. The museum has acquired by purchase the special library on gems and precious stones of Mr. George F. Kunz, with Tiffany & Co., of New York. A special library on ornithology is also to be found on the shelves, with a promise of the valuable collection of E. E. Ayer, of Chicago, on the same subject.

As far as possible the books will be placed in the rooms to which they relate, making information on special lines easy of access to both curators and students. Probably no museum in the world has started on its career of usefulness

with a better collection of books and specimens, or with brighter prospects for the future than the Field Columbian Museum.

Through the facilities offered by the various libraries and schools Chicago is becoming quite a literary centre. Students and writers come long distances for the purpose of obtaining access to books not to be found elsewhere in the West. Books are also sent long distances under proper restriction, to persons whose time or business will not permit of a visit to the city. Thus Chicago is acquiring a reputation for something besides beef and pork—something, too, which is quite as necessary—the facilities for the culture of the mind.

A CLASSIFICATION OF MUNICIPAL LITERATURE.

THE following scheme for the classification of London literature, devised for the collection in the Guildhall Library in London, by the librarian of that institution, Mr. Charles Wells, is here reprinted from the "Transactions" of the Bibliographical Society, vol. 2. pt. 1. It is, as Mr. Wells declares, "a development of Professor Dewey's decimal system of classification, which has been employed in the library for many years." Under the present "municipal renaissance," such a scheme will perhaps have its special interest to American librarians, although it is probable that the system here offered cannot be entirely followed, if allowance is made for the difference in conditions in American cities from those in London. As to this scheme being "a development" of the decimal classification, it seems to me that the only likeness is the arbitrary division into classes of ten subdivisions, and this arbitrary division has here been carried to a point unexcelled in the D. C. But as a rough list of subject headings that may be useful in making up a system of classification for municipal literature, the scheme may perhaps interest the readers of the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

A. G. S. JOSEPHSON.

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| <p>LONDON general.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Guides. 2. Dictionaries. 3. Essays. 4. Periodicals. 5. Societies. 6. Tours and Travels. 7. Directories. 8. 9. Bibliography and libraries. 10. Theology (Religion). 11. Controversies. 12. Government. 13. Visitations and pastoral letters. 14. Church history. 15. Sects. 16. Institutions. 17. Missions. 18. Sermons. 19. Non-Christian religions. 20. Social life. 21. Ceremonials. 22. Pageants and entertainments. 23. Clubs and taverns. 24. Spies. 25. Fairs. 26. Street life. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 27. Amusements, theatres, music. 28. Miscellaneous. 29. Education. 30. Constitution. 31. Charters and customs. 32. Courts, administrative. 33. Courts, judicial. 34. Elections. 35. Offices. 36. Mayoralty. 37. Livery companies. 38. Freemen and apprentices. 39. Public bodies. 40. Administration. 41. Poor. 42. Police. 43. Prisons. 44. Light and water. 45. Markets and food. 46. Sanitary. 47. Roads and conveyance. 48. Associations. 49. Other. 50. Commerce. 51. Finance. 52. Bank of England, and banking. 53. Old trading companies. |
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 54. Insurance. 55. Docks and shipping. 56. Coal trade. 57. Taxes and duties. 58. Various industries. 59. Companies and associations. 60. Literature, Science, and Art. 61. Poetry and drama. 62. Prose. 63. Statistics. 64. Geology. 65. Botany. 66. Natural history. 67. Climate and health. 68. Art. 69. Societies and institutions. 70. History. 71. Political history. 72. Military history. 73. Trials. 74. Plots and insurrections. 75. Plagues. 76. Great fire. 77. Notable events. 78. Biography. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 79. Archaeology. 80. Topography and Description. 81. Wards. 82. Parish and church histories. 83. Ecclesiastical architecture. 84. Public buildings. 85. Commercial and domestic architecture. 86. Street improvements. 87. Thames and tributaries. 88. Bridges. 89. Maps and views. 90. Suburbs—Extra-mural London. 91. Liberties. 92. Tower. 93. Inns of Court. 94. Palaces and government offices. 95. Parks and gardens. 96. Westminster. 97. Westminster Abbey. 98. Southwark. 99. Outer parishes and districts. |
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THE CATALOGUE OF THE ROYAL LIBRARY AT BERLIN.

From the *Kölnische Zeitung*.

THE Prussian government has appropriated the sum of 300,000 marks for the printing of a catalog of the scientific libraries of Prussia contained in the Royal Library and in the ten University libraries of the Prussian dominions. This amount is to be regularly drawn in sums of 15,000 marks per year. Two years ago a loan system was instituted by which all the universities had free access to the works in the Royal Library. Since this departure, the need of a catalog of the royal treasures that can be placed in every university has been more and more felt. The Royal Library is obliged to acquire the scientific literature of every branch of learning, even works in demand only by a very small number of specialists, and the catalog, as planned, will enable all scholars to know which of the books required in their researches are at Berlin, and, according to the new rules, at their disposal in any part of the country. The British Museum began to print its catalog in 1881, and the Bibliothèque Nationale is now preparing its material for the printer; it is therefore expected that in the course of some years the three most important scientific libraries of the world will be put at the service of scholars throughout the world. Berlin claims that its catalog will be the best for the needs of scholars, because it will be a subject catalog. The British Museum catalog can only be of use to those who know what they want. But the Royal Library of Berlin will bring out a classified catalog by which a scholar may at once see all the books existing on a special subject and make sure at once that the ground he is endeavoring to cover has not already been preempted. The catalog of the Royal Library, the fruit of ten years' labor of scholars of profound scientific attainments (for the law admits no others to the position of cataloger in the Royal Library), now fills 600 massive folio volumes and

represents about 850,000 publications. The chief value of such a subject catalog will be that it will make it possible for other libraries or institutions to procure the division of the catalog which meets their special needs. To buy the immense catalog of the British Museum is almost impossible, it is too costly, there would be no room for it except in a very few libraries, and its vast accumulation of information would be wholly unnecessary in the separate universities of Germany, which are identified the world over with special branches of learning and sought only by scholars devoted to the researches they represent. In such universities the institute of mineralogy will be enabled to buy the volume of the Royal Library on mineralogy, the institute of natural history that on natural history, etc. Each institute can then mark up the works it possesses, insert any work it may possess not included in the catalog, and know what works can be found in the Royal Library. The catalog will be a monument to German industry and learning. It is an interesting fact that in the report of the political convention authorizing the necessary outlay for this great undertaking, the scholars and learned men in the house of representatives were severely arraigned for not displaying more enthusiasm over a decision of which the full benefit can be appreciated by them only.

BINDERY NOTES.

From the Nation.

THE Boston Public Library, in its new and ample quarters, has a roomy and well-lighted bindery, wherein all the books of the library are clothed, at their need. Some little leather work is done therein, as it becomes necessary to bind volumes to match other volumes of a set, but by far the greater part of the binding is in cotton or in linen. Large folios, their valuable plates strongly and neatly mounted on *onglets*, or "guards," in the most approved manner, and small duodecimos for free circulation alike, are covered with grayish brown cotton duck or with grayish white linen. One result of modern industrial triumphs is that good leather cannot, as a general thing, be got for binding — none that will be tolerably sure to last for twenty years, although there are plenty of bindings 300 years old still at hand whose joints are yet solid and whose corners are yet sharp. We used to be told that Russia ought not to be used, because it would turn to dust and split all along the hinge of each cover, and that was true; but it is true also of calf, and now it is beginning to be said that even the once trustworthy red morocco must be given up. Hogskin there is yet, but it is heavy and hard and makes an expensive binding; parchment and vellum, too, but they crinkle and blister and refuse to cling to the boards, unless, indeed, the work is done at a very considerable cost. This, at least, is what the Boston Library people urge. It is in view of these very serious drawbacks to the old custom of binding in leather that the famous Boston Institution has taken up textile fabrics as its covering material. On the other

hand, the bookbinders by trade tell us that the leathers of 50 years ago are made now as well as then. If you want the Turkey morocco or Levant morocco binding of old times, you can have it, and at the same or equivalent prices as then. It may be a little dearer or a little cheaper, as duties or wages vary, but the leather is the same and costs the same. This, however, has happened: the market is deluged with cheap imitations, and librarians have remade their own standard of cost to correspond with these. A sham morocco can be furnished at half the price of the real article, and the volume that would cost \$2 to bind in the latter can be bound in the imitation for \$1.60. The librarians say then that \$1.60 is all they will pay; and binding done at this price will drop to pieces — there is no doubt about that. Forget the new commercial shams, go back to the old honest leather and the old prices, and you need not hanker after linen or cotton covering for your books.

Binding in cloth has been somewhat used already by amateurs of small means. Such an one, having his long rows of French novels which he loved — Cherbuliez and George Sand, Dumas and Gautier, Daudet and About — and wishing to save his money and yet to have pretty books, thought of the bright printed calicoes which were in fashion for ladies' gowns that summer — those with small sprigs of flowers for their pattern. He laid in a stock of these, a different pattern for each author (and a good many yards were necessary of the styles chosen for Dumas and George Sand). The French volume of regulation size costs a franc a volume in France to cover prettily in this way, or a franc and a quarter a volume with "top edge gilt," not counting the cost of the printed calico which one buys by the yard: but this is *cartonnage*, or cloth binding of the usual sort, and the covers, although bearing the wear and tear of years without splitting or separating from the volume, do certainly spread at the back and grow unsightly. Now, if it were indeed true that modern industrial conditions do not allow of good leather being made, why not, so long as linen and cotton are still allowed us of reasonable strength and durability, bind in these? Plain gray and brown linen are there for the serious workman and for public libraries, variously colored stuffs are accessible for those who prefer them. Stamped work, which has now grown common in what are called commercial bindings, is capable of much, if not forced beyond its limitations, and finally silk is available, and has even been used in several instances of late in the binding of whole editions of gift-books, although the binders tell us that silk does not behave as well as the humbler textiles. Velvet used to be familiar on the covers of church service books; and figured velvets, such as those made nowadays in Venice, brocades like those brought from Japan, and the heavier kind of Indian kimkhab might be used as well as printed or thread-dyed cotton. The cheviot of which our summer outing shirts are made would seem to be well adapted for book-coverings, and so would the tartan silks which are offered us this year (1895) for spring neckties.

New York State Library School.

CLOSING EXERCISES FOR 1894-95.

THE closing exercises of the New York State Library School for 1894-95 were held in the state library, June 22. The exercises were very simple, consisting only of an informal address by the director and the presentation of the diplomas.

The following is a complete list of diplomas conferred since July, 1894:

Degree of B.L.S.: George Franklin Bowerman, Honeoye Falls, N. Y., B.A. University of Rochester, 1892; Jennie Lind Christman, Albany, N. Y., B.S.C. Iowa State College, 1883.

Diplomas with honor: Grace Fisher Leonard, Providence, R. I., Brown University, 1893; Harriet Howard Stanley, Magnolia, Mass.; Minnie Cornwell Wilson, St. Louis, Mo.

Diplomas: Edna Dean Bullock, Lincoln, Neb., B.L. University of Nebraska, 1889; George Greenman Champlin, Alfred, N. Y., Ph.B. Alfred University, 1884, Ph.M., 1890; Walter Greenwood Forsyth, Providence, R. I., B.A. Harvard University, 1888; Helen Cornwell Silliman, Rutland, Vt.; Mary Louisa Sutliff, Albany, N. Y.

State Library Associations.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

A MEETING of the Massachusetts Library Club was held in Ames Memorial Hall at North Easton, May 22, 1895. The Boston party left the Old Colony station at 8.30 a.m. in a private car provided by the kindness of the N. Y. N. H. & H. R. R. Co., and reached North Easton at 9.17, where those who had come from the south awaited them. The whole party were then conducted to the library, visiting on the way Unity Church, which contains a beautiful stained glass window by La Farge. The library building and Memorial Hall, both designed by Richardson, are grouped effectively upon an eminence, and present a singularly attractive picture as viewed from the approach from the station.

After inspecting the library the party crossed to the hall, where the meeting was called to order by the president, Mr. Foster, at 10.40.

Mr. W. R. Eastman, of the Public Libraries Division of the New York State Library, opened the session with an entertaining and valuable paper upon the travelling libraries of New York. These are now familiar to readers of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, but a few quotations must nevertheless be permitted. Since Feb. 8, 1893, 223 of these libraries have been sent out, and counting the use of those now out it may be safely said that 40,000 of these books have thus been read in a little more than two years. "The effort is made to bring together books of some educational value that are deservedly popular; books that are neither trivial nor heavy; a few books to meet the wishes of a few cultivated people, but most books to meet the tastes of the many, and to meet them in such a way as to

cultivate higher and better tastes." "They serve also as an object-lesson to show what a library is, how it may be arranged and handled, how many attractive and excellent books may be had, and how good and how easy it is to have them." "Libraries that are fully able and ready to buy books still find the travelling libraries a decided advantage in showing them the books they want, and giving them the actual trial of many books in advance of their buying."

Several juvenile libraries of 25 vols. have been prepared, and it is the intention to add one of these to a general library for an extra charge of \$1, so that the use of 125 books may be had for six months for \$6.

Miss Chandler, of Lancaster, said she thought it was not widely known what had been done in this state and in this direction by private enterprise, and read the circular of the Woman's Education Association, which she followed by an interesting account of the work of the association. The object of the association is to generally "promote educational interests," but it has recently taken up the special work of increasing the usefulness of the small town libraries of the state. This is done by loaning travelling libraries of about 25 volumes for periods of six months to libraries or societies applying for them. About seven libraries of varying character have been used in this way by a number of towns with most gratifying success.

Mr. Foster described the plan of the state library commission to buy reference books to loan on request to libraries, with a view to acquiring a reference loaning library.

Mr. Eastman said that it was one of the duties of the New York State Library to answer questions, but that for research of more than an hour in length a charge was made. Officers of any institution connected with the University were entitled to borrow books of reference, particularly from the duplicates.

The morning session closed at 12 m., and after enjoying a bountiful dinner, the club, in a body, visited the greenhouses on the Ames estates, delighting in the profusion of charming and wonderful flowers and the beauty of the housing.

The afternoon session opened at 2.40 p.m. — such was the effect of nature and of art — with a report from the executive committee upon the appointment of a special committee on lists of fiction, consisting of Mr. Jones, of Salem, chairman; Miss Nina E. Browne, of Boston, secretary; and 15 readers.

Mr. Jones then spoke upon the variations in charging books under the "two-book plan," giving in the main the facts and figures printed in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for May, 1895. Some discussion of the respective merits of one and two cards followed, from which it appeared that either plan was capable of good results in hands familiar with it.

Miss Thurston said that a boy of 12 who had lately applied for his first card asked for two, "one for fiction and one for truth."

Miss Blanchard, of Weymouth, issues a special card stamped "not for fiction"; 300 of these had been issued, and during the period from February

to April 900 more volumes had been issued than in the same period in the preceding year, while the proportion of fiction declined from 70 % to 65 %.

Miss Chandler said that at Lancaster there had been an increase of 20 % in circulation since the plan was adopted—9 % of which was in school work—and there was a marked increase in the use of magazines. Fiction percentage had declined from 68 % to 60 %. Miss Thurston had found that people sometimes thought they must take fiction on the fiction card.

Mr. Foster called attention to the fact that it took people longer to read solid literature than an equal amount of fiction, and said that this should be borne in mind when interpreting statistics.

Mr. Gifford, librarian of the Cambridge Public Library, then gave an account of the purchase of books for the Millicent Library, at Fairhaven, which he had conducted while assistant librarian in the New Bedford Public Library. The Millicent Library was founded by Mr. H. H. Rogers, as a memorial of his daughter. The town holds the title of the land and building, but the management is in the hands of a self-perpetuating board of trustees named by Mr. Rogers, and the cost of maintaining the library is met from the income of \$100,000 given by Mr. Rogers and placed in the care of the state as trustee. By the deed of gift the library must be kept open twelve hours a day every day in the year. About 10,000 volumes were bought to stock the library at the start. After selecting the reference books, with due regard to the existence in New Bedford of an unusually good reference library, two copies of the catalogs of the leading publishers were secured and in each were checked the titles desired. One copy was kept as a record, and the other sent to the purchasing agent in New York, of whom, by Mr. Rogers' wish, all the books were bought. The chief attention was paid to fiction, biography, and travel; in philosophy—philology but little was got. No texts were bought in the original, though some have since been added, but a translation of each classic was secured. A similar method was adopted with a number of good second-hand catalogs, and finally the "Trade List Annual" of 1892 was searched. The A. L. A. catalog had not been issued when this purchase was made, but on its appearance a very large proportion of its titles were found to have been bought.

Mr. Faxon called attention to the standing offer of Swedenborgian Publication Society to supply a copy of Swedenborg's works to any library that would engage to pay for transportation and to place the books on the shelves. Mr. Jones stated that certain Unitarian books could be had on the same terms from the Unitarian Association.

Mr. Chase then moved a vote of thanks to the trustees of the Ames Free Library, to Miss Lamprey, the librarian, and other friends who had contributed so greatly to the pleasure of the day, which was unanimously adopted, whereupon the meeting adjourned.

WM. H. TILLINGHAST, *Secretary.*

Reviews.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, Publishing Section. List of books for girls and women and their clubs; edited by Augusta H. Leypoldt and George H. H. H. Part 1: Fiction; chosen and annotated by a reviewer for *The Nation*. Boston, Library Bureau, 1895. 160 p. Tt. 10 c.

The Publishing Section of the American Library Association authorized in 1894 the preparation of a list of books for girls' and women's clubs, to be especially intended as a guide for readers and students. The compilation of this list was begun over a year ago by Miss Ellen M. Coe, whose progress on the work has been from time to time noted in the *JOURNAL* (*See* L. J., November, 1894, p. 381; January, 1895, p. 20). When, in the spring of the present year, Miss Coe's connection with library matters ceased, her work was taken up by Mr. George H. H. of the Publishing Section, and Mrs. Augusta H. Leypoldt, editor of the *Literary News*, who have largely extended and modified the original plan. The complete work, of which the present pamphlet is the first part, will contain five divisions, each of which will be published separately, as ready. Part 2, covering Biography, History, Travel, Literature and Folk-lore, will follow promptly after Fiction; the other divisions will include: Part 3, Fine Arts and Music; Part 4, Education, Self-culture, Science; Part 5, Useful Arts, Livelihoods, Country occupations, Domestic economy, Recreations and Sports. The various parts, together with lists of reference books and of periodicals, brief hints on club organization and management, and a full index, will be finally issued early in the coming autumn in a single substantial volume. The list will thus be obtainable either in separate paper-bound parts, similar in size and style to the A. L. A. Handbook and sold at ten cents each, or in the form of a classed catalog with author, title, and subject index, in pages four times the size of those of the parts, at 50 c. in paper, and \$1.00 in cloth.

Of course, the distinctive feature of the list is its "evaluation." In this particular Mr. H. has been able to carry out his long-cherished purpose of bringing to the aid of the general reading and inquiring public the services of men and women who have thoroughly mastered specific fields of literature. Among the contributors of the various departments of the catalog are: for Fiction, a reviewer of *The Nation*; for History, R. G. Thwaites; for Travel, Miss A. R. Hesse; for Literature, G. Mercer Adam; Folk-lore, Stewart Culin; Fine Arts, Russell Sturgis; Music, H. E. Krehbiel, musical editor of the *N. Y. Tribune*; Kindergarten, Miss Angeline Brooks, of the Teachers' College, New York; Natural History, Olive Thorne Miller; and Education, Prof. E. R. Shaw, of New York University. Of the value of the list as a whole, it is as yet impossible to speak, though Part 1 promises well for its successors, but certainly

its leading feature of authoritative critical annotation cannot fail to be widely useful.

The fiction list is limited to the principal works of 250 American, British, and Canadian authors, including, besides well-known writers, a few of the weak, frivolous and trashy novelists, whose popularity is one of the woes of the librarian, and for whom there is a word of comment or of condemnation. It is an author list; entries are made generally under real name, with references from pseudonyms, and when practicable the dates of birth and death of authors are given. Names of publishers are abbreviated; as a rule at least two low-priced editions of a book are noted—one in cloth and one in paper; and the first note after an author's name is followed by the number of his works in the D.C. The plan of the annotations has been to give to each leading writer a general characterization of his place in literature and the dominant qualities of his work, and to follow this with short comment on his best books, bringing out, as far as possible, the key-note of each. The annotations are extremely interesting and written with spirit and color. Probably no critical estimate can be made that does not show some trace of the "personal equation," but setting aside questions of personal bias, the annotations to the present list will undoubtedly prove most suggestive. For librarians it will be useful as a comprehensive critical estimate of novels in the English language, and with the call-numbers written in should serve as an excellent finding-list. Considered as "advance sheets," it promises a complete catalog of representative literature of quite unusual interest and value.

BIERSTADT, O. A. The library of Robert Hoe: a contribution to the history of bibliophilism in America; with 110 ill. taken from mss. and books in the collection. N. Y., Duprat & Co., 1895. c. 10+224 p. O. net, \$15.

This beautiful volume is not only a most notable contribution to American bibliographical literature, but it is undoubtedly one of the most perfect examples of typography and book-making that has left the press of an American printer. From the simple binding of plain blue cloth to the choice of type and the use of creamy vellum paper, no detail has been slighted, while the artotype reproductions of the 110 illustrations taken from mss. and books in the collection are veritable gems. Mr. Hoe's collection is well worthy of such a presentation, and Mr. Bierstadt, who is assistant librarian of the Astor Library, has described it with enthusiasm and trained knowledge.

The collection, which ranks as one of the most remarkable private libraries in the United States, comprises, at a rough estimate, about 15,000 volumes; of early mss. upon vellum and paper there is an unusually large number, and to these hundred or more varieties the first attention is given. The early typographers of Germany, Italy, France, Switzerland, the Low

Countries and England are fully represented and the connection between the varying styles and methods is interestingly traced. Then follow full and interesting descriptions of the Books of Hours of the 15th century, the Aldines, Elzevirs, and the rare books of the Renaissance epoch, embellished with quaint and curious fac-simile illustrations, beautifully reproduced. English literature also occupies a prominent place in the library, and first editions abound. There are black-letter Chaucers, folio Shakespeares, Elizabethan dramatists and dramatists of the restoration, the masters of English thought and speech of the eighteenth century, and the great writers of the Victorian era. Much space is given to the description of notable bindings and the collection is rich in specimens of the best work of the great binders of ancient and modern times. Both as a bibliographical work and as an example of artistic bookmaking this volume will long remain the most important addition "to the history of bibliophilism in America," and to the study of the private libraries of New York.

LARNED, Josephus Nelson. History for ready reference, from the best historians, biographers, and specialists. In five vols. Vol. 5—Tunnage to Zyp, and Supplement. Springfield, C. A. Nichols & Co., 1894.

This volume concludes Mr. Larned's great historical compendium, and it is a fitting crown and finish to what is one of the most notable and useful recent works of reference. The 3935 closely printed, double-column pages of these five volumes cover an extent and variety of information that it is difficult to estimate. In the present volume 423 pages, or more than half of the entire space, is given to the United States. This division—which might be termed an independent history in itself—contains seven maps, five of them devoted to the principal theatres of the civil war. The other topics to which considerable space has been given are Turks, 27 pages; Venice, 13 pages; and Virginia, 12 pages. The volume proper ends with the entry "Zyp, Battle of the," on page 3668, and the 200 pages following are devoted to the supplement. The contents of this appendix are best given in Mr. Larned's own words. He says: "This supplement contains: 1. Some passages translated from German and French writings, touching matters less competently treated in the body of the work, where the compilation is restricted to 'the literature of history in the English language,' either originally or in published translations. 2. Some postscripts on recent events, and some excerpts from recent books. 3. Treatment of some topics that were omitted from their places in the body of the work, either intentionally or by accident, and which it seems best to include. 4. Some cross-references needed to complete the subject-indexing of the work throughout. 5. A complete series of chronological tables, by centuries. 6. A series of dynastic genealogies, in a form different from the usual plan of their construction, and which, it is hoped,

may be found more easily intelligible. 7. Select bibliographies, partly annotated, of several of the more important fields of history. 8. A full list of the works quoted from in this compilation of 'History for ready reference and topical reading,' with the names of the publishers." Among the especially novel and important features of the supplement are the detailed chronology of universal history (45 pages); the tables of the lineage of European sovereigns and great historic families (25 pages); the minute special chronologies of African and Arctic exploration (10 pages), which, it is said, are the only records of the kind ever compiled; and the valuable essay upon "Commerce" (32 pages). In the selections and translations from the German, Mr. Larned has had the help of Ernest F. Henderson, author of "A history of Germany in the Middle Ages," who has also prepared the bibliography of French and German writings. The "selected bibliography" of books quoted concludes the work; it covers 51 pages of solid nonpareil, is classed and briefly annotated, and presents within the least space what is probably the most comprehensive and representative conspectus of historical literature accessible to the general reader. Perhaps one of the chief merits of this work is the promptness with which it has been issued, a promptness which is as desirable as it is usually unattainable in publications of this character. The first volume of "History for ready reference" appeared in April, 1894, and in July, 1895, it is possible to tender to Mr. Larned hearty congratulations upon the completion of his *magnum opus*.

NÖRRENBERG, Constantin. Die volksbibliothek: ihre aufgabe und ihre reform; referat auf der 25 generalversammlung der gesellschaft für verbreitung von volksbildung in Hamburg am 19 Mai, 1895. 28 p. S.

The librarian of the Kiel University Library when he attended the Conference at Chicago in 1893 pronounced America ahead of the whole world in the education of the people by public libraries. In the present lecture he has formulated his studies of the work of the A. L. A. for the benefit of his fellow-librarians in Germany, which although ahead in higher education and universities, stands far behind England and America in its provision for the literary education of the masses. In summing up Dr. Nörrenberg asked for reports on the following questions:

1. The best and cheapest method of spreading good literature by the means of public libraries.
2. Plans for reform of the existing public libraries, which are wholly inadequate for the work that should be theirs.

He pointed out the need of making each library serve the needs of the educated as well as the lower classes; the necessity of having such libraries under the care of trained librarians; the special need of evening use of a well-lighted reading-room, of good catalogs, and of the awakening of such interest in libraries as should lead to bequests and provisions that should be handled with trained minds and methods.

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

The PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB has issued as no. 3 of the *Occasional Papers*, published by the association, an address on "American libraries, their past, present and future," read at the meeting of Feb. 11, 1895, by G. Watson Cole, of the Jersey City P. L.; and Miss M. S. Cutler's paper on "Two fundamentals," read at the meeting of May 13, 1895. Mr. Cole's address is a review of the library movement in the United States to the present time, with an ingenious forecast of the "future possibilities" of the library situation in the year of grace 1995. Miss Cutler's paper emphasizes the need of thorough organization and adaptation to local needs, to the right administration of a library. The paper on "Fiction" by John Thomson, printed in June, 1894, as No. 1 of the *Occasional Papers*, is now reissued in a second edition, dated June, 1895.

LOCAL.

Bowdoin College L., Brunswick, Me. (Rpt.) The librarian's report covers p. 239-249 of the Bowdoin College *Bulletin*, no. 4, for June, 1895. With this issue the publication of the *Bulletin* is discontinued; its bibliographical department will, however, be published independently under the title *Bibliographical contributions*.

Mr. Little reports as follows: Added 2039; total (exclusive of medical l., 3600 v.) 55,169. Issued 6090. A brief but urgent summary of the need of additional shelving and more space is made. As to the future growth of the library, Mr. Little says: "In 1892 the librarian reported as the result of eight years of experience that \$1500 was the smallest annual appropriation that could insure the normal growth of the library. That sum was appropriated for two successive years. But in 1894, the centennial year, with the college income \$5000 greater than before, the appropriation for books was reduced to \$1000, the very same amount which was appropriated for the same object in 1893. It is hard to believe that this large reduction in so important an appropriation resulted from the belief that those of previous years had been excessive. It is equally hard to infer that it was for lack of money, since appropriations for other departments were considerably larger than in 1892. Unless a return is made to the former appropriation the Bowdoin library will not be able to longer maintain the position it has held for a century as the largest collection of books in the state. Four other libraries in Maine are now able to spend a larger amount each year upon new books. Without the state there is no college, with which we would care to compare ourselves, that does not have an income from two to twenty-fold as great as our own."

Bradford, Vt., Woods L. The new Woods Library building was dedicated on the afternoon of July 4, the oration of the day being by Col. J. H. Benton, of Boston. The library was incorporated as the Bradford Social Library in 1796, and in 1880 was organized as a free public

library. The new building was given by John Luran Woods, of Bradford.

CARPENTER, Edmund J. The story of the Boston Public Library. (In *New England Magazine* for August, 1895, p. 737-756.) il.

An interesting sketch of the history and development of the Boston Public Library, from its organization in 1841 to the present time; illustrated with views of the old buildings and portraits of trustees and librarians.

Dexter, Me., *Abbott Memorial L.* The Abbott Memorial Library, given to Dexter by J. A. Abbott, of that town, was formally dedicated on July 2. The building, which cost \$25,000, is in the form of a rectangle, with a wing extending in the rear. The style of architecture is Italian Renaissance. The ornamentation of the exterior is a continuous fascia about the main portion of the facade, ornamented with a decorative panel bearing the names of distinguished men in literature, art, and science, arranged in groups pertaining to each of these individual classes.

In the centre, is the entrance portico, with broad steps and buttresses. On either side the buttresses are made to receive ornamental statuary or pottery, and the main pediment of the portico is filled with Renaissance ornamentations, encircling a shield symbolic of liberty, architecture, and science. On either side of the entrance are ornamental shields relating to the departments of literature, and the main archway is supported by ornamental columns. The main entrance is through a large doorway, on either side of which is a window and heavy tracery, and the beauty of the portico is added to by the panelling of the ceiling. To the right and left are smaller entrances to the selectmen's room on the left and art gallery on the right.

The main entrance leads into a large hall, 16 x 23, finished in quartered oak, even to the floor. On one side is the delivery-room; at the rear of the hall is the book-stack, with a capacity, of 20,000 v., and on the right of the hall is a room to be devoted to an art gallery. The ceilings are all beautifully frescoed, and much care and artistic taste is displayed in the decoration and fitting of the building. It is piped for gas and wired for electricity.

The library now contains but 4000 v., the collection of the old public library; but it is probable that it will be considerably increased after it is fairly established in the new building.

Fall River (Mass.) *P. L.* The board has issued a circular inviting architects to submit plans for the new library building. From among the plans submitted the best five will be selected. Should one of the five plans be selected, each of the four architects submitting other plans will be paid \$250. In case all five are rejected, \$250 will be paid for each, and the committee will take other means to procure plans. The author of the accepted plan shall be appointed architect of the building, and be paid for his services in accordance with the "Schedule of minimum charges" authorized by the American Institute of Architects. The new building is to cost not more than \$100,000.

Helena (Mont.) *P. L.* In July it was decided to issue two books—one non-fiction—to all borrowers desiring them. The age limit, which has heretofore been 12 years, has been removed, and children are now allowed cards "if their parents approve" as soon they are old enough to use the library themselves.

Indianapolis (Ind.) *P. L.* (21st rpt.) Added 4804; total 59,317. Issued, home use 233,776; reading-room use 53,023. New cards issued 3535; total registration 23,483.

Jamestown, N. Y., *James Prendergast L.* (4th rpt.) Added 933; total 10,045. Issued, home use 49,194 (fict. 49.21 %; juv. 22.42 %). Visitors to reference dept. 18,808. Total registration 3338.

"The most noteworthy fact in the history of the library during the year was attaining the 10,000-volume mark, which ranks us with the 75 libraries of the state that have 10,000 volumes or more."

Comparison with the figures of last year shows that the reading of fiction was reduced 3.5 per cent. History, which includes travel and biography, gained 2.9 per cent., and all other classes have gained somewhat.

"During the year special outlay has been made for kindergarten literature, electrical works, U. S. and modern history, travel and biography. In fiction it has been the aim to put on the shelves the best of the new books, and to duplicate the more valuable of the popular works.

"Of the 710 accessions in the circulating department, 128 were Swedish books, imported last September. These are the first books in the Swedish language added to the library. They are works of high character, classified in philosophy, religion, sociology, literature, and history. In the nine months that these books have been in circulation 644 have been loaned, a daily average of three. They have been highly appreciated by the Swedish people, and the use that has been made of them justifies their purchase.

"A travelling library of 100 volumes was loaned us by the state for six months to supplement our own new books. The books were used as if our own, and when they were returned, with report of their circulation, it was found that they had had the largest circulation of any travelling library ever sent out by the state. Another library of 100 volumes on a special subject was also loaned us by the state.

"A special effort was made during the past year to keep in touch with teachers and pupils. The librarian visited the schools, telling of the resources of the library and how they were available. Since that time pupils of all grades have used the reference-room extensively in search of articles and books to supplement their school work. Histories, biographies, books of travel and natural history have been in great demand. Gradually the resources of the library are becoming better known to the teachers, with the result of a largely increased use of books.

"In January a 'List of 350 good books for

the young people' was published to aid in the selection of the best books for home reading, and the result has proved most gratifying, for the lists have been in great demand and constant use. No part of the library work is more important than in guiding the children to suitable reading matter."

Kansas State Hist. Soc., Topeka. (9th biennial rpt.) Details of the growth of the library during the past two years are given in the report. Additions are 5708 (3378 pm.); total 79,900 (43,617 pm.). The library now contains 10,689 bound v. of Kansas newspapers and magazines, "a larger collection of local historical materials of this class than is contained in any other library in the world"; it is also becoming very full in works relating to the discovery, exploration, and settlement of the Western country. The report calls attention to the fact that up to the present time the appropriations for purchases have been wholly inadequate to supply deficiencies as contemplated by the law. They have been usually but \$500 annually, a trifling and insignificant amount compared with the accessions by gift, and compared with what is being expended by other states for such purposes.

Lake George (N. Y.) F. L. The Lake George Free Library, recently established with aid from the state, has been duly chartered. It contains 450 volumes, and is open three days of the week, from 3 to 4 p.m.; books may be kept for one month.

Middletown, Ct. Wesleyan Univ. L. Added 821; total 42,046. This does not include the medical library of the late Jarvis N. Husted, M.D., consisting of about 1000 volumes and 500 pamphlets; nor the library of the late Prof. G. Prentice, D.D., consisting of 1569 bound volumes, 326 unbound volumes, and 612 miscellaneous pamphlets and periodicals. The Prentice library, presented to the university by some of the alumni, is especially rich in books in German literature, and French and German theology.

During the year \$500 was received from an alumnus for the purchase of mathematical and astronomical books, and \$23 from the class of 1894 for the purchase of books on political economy and social science. The sum of \$2500 has been pledged by the alumni for the immediate purchase of books, and over \$6000 have been pledged to the endowment fund of the library. The intention is to raise at least \$21,000, increasing the endowment fund to \$40,000.

Montana libraries. In a recent article in the *Helena Independent*, F. C. Patten, librarian of the Helena (Mont.) P. L., gives an interesting summary of the libraries of Montana, based upon replies received to over 70 letters of inquiry. The libraries of the chief cities of the state are as follows:

Anaconda: Hearst Library, 1842 v. Bozeman: Bozeman Library, 2877; Agricultural College, 1500. Butte: Free Public Library, 17,396; Miners' Union, 500. Deer Lodge: College

of Montana, 2500. Dillon: Dillon Public Library, 940. Great Falls: Valeria Public Library, 2517. Helena: Montana State (two depts.), 16,000; office state supt. pub. inst., 500; office state bureau of agriculture, labor, and industry, 350; Public Library, 15,600; Sacred Heart, 830; St. Vincent's Academy, 550; Wesleyan University, 600; Grand Lodge, Masonic, 800; Montana club, 1000; I. O. O. F. and fire dept., 300. Missoula: Free Public Library, 1330. Twin Bridges: Normal training school, 350. White Sulphur Springs: W. C. T. U. L., 350. Total, 68,622 v.

In addition to this total of 68,622 v. in the 21 libraries of 10 cities, 23 towns have public school libraries ranging from 100 to 900 v. each.

Of public free libraries there are but seven—at Anaconda, Bozeman, Butte, Dillon, Great Falls, Helena, Missoula—five of which are supported by taxation; of college and academy libraries there are five; the remainder are subscription libraries, school collections, or small libraries belonging to clubs and organizations. Statistics of church and Sunday school libraries are not given.

New York, Harlem L. (Rpt.) Added 810; total not given. Issued 42,969 (fict. 35,342); membership (estimated) 479. Receipts \$11,132.86; expenses \$5978.02.

The action taken last autumn, making the rates of quarterly and semi-annual subscriptions larger proportionately than the annual rate, has resulted in a larger number of annual subscriptions and a more reliable income.

Norwich, Ct. Otis L. The publication of the library *Bulletin* is still continued, in spite of the fear expressed early in the year that lack of funds might compel its discontinuance. The age restriction has been removed from the use of the library, and "children of any age who are recommended by their parents or teachers or guardians can now have a card of their own."

Paterson (N. J.) P. L. (10th rpt.) Added 1766; total 22,531. Issued, home use 124,057 (fict. 80,554); teachers' use 1514; lib. use 1768. No record of books used in the reference-room is kept. New cards issued 1595; total registration 17,472. Receipts \$20,028.47; expenses \$21,404.21.

Mr. Winchester recommends that "a collection be made of the best photographs of the most famous works of art in painting and sculpture to be found in the great European galleries. The making of such a collection is entirely practicable, would not involve a very large outlay, and would be sure to become at once a very popular and a most valuable and useful acquisition."

The president of the board of trustees says: "When the Danforth Library building was opened to the public, less than five years ago, it seemed so commodious that we believed the accommodation would be sufficient for many future years; but the steady yearly growth has been such that the trustees are now beginning anxiously to consider how the building might possibly be enlarged, and how the necessary funds might be procured for the work. In every

department the library is now crowded, and the utmost limit of growth and convenient use will soon be reached. The weight of the books was found to require additional support for security, and this was only recently effected at considerable expense."

The Passaic County Medical Society has transferred to the library its collection of professional books and journals, which includes many valuable medical works and sets of professional periodicals, transactions, etc. A special catalog of the collection has been prepared and may be consulted by request. The books may be drawn by any physician, medical student, or adult person interested in medical subjects, and special physicians' cards are issued, on which two or more books may be drawn at a time. Additions to the collection will be made annually by the library board and the Medical Society.

Philadelphia (Pa.) F. L. Arrangements have been completed for the establishment of two new branches of the free library system. One of these, to be established at Seventh and Lombard streets, is really an extension of the College settlement branch opened in October, 1894. This branch has grown so largely that the accommodations afforded by the College settlement house are insufficient, and the library is to be removed to new and adequate quarters. The other new branch will be established at the Evening Home Association, on Aspen street, above Chestnut. The free library will supply 2000 volumes and engage two assistants out of the appropriation of Councils. Both branches will be open to the public by October 1.

Port Jervis (N. Y.) F. L. (Rpt.) Added 751; total 6124. Issued 13,578, showing an increase of 3200 over previous year.

Rochester, N. Y. Reynolds L. On August 1, the library was closed for two months, pending removal to its new quarters. The rooms occupied in the old building as reference department are to be used for an independent public reading-room, devoted to popular periodicals, encyclopedias, and duplicate books of reference. The scientific and special journals will be kept in the new building. It is also intended to establish a downtown office for the return and delivery of books. The library will probably be opened in its new home on October 1, when the reading-room will also be opened.

Rome, N. Y. Jervis L. The Jervis Library was informally opened for inspection July 12-13, and on the afternoon of July 15 the formal dedicatory exercises were held, when the audience assembled on the lawn and the addresses were made from the broad piazza of the building.

The library is established in accordance with the will of John B. Jervis, who died Jan. 12, 1885, leaving three-tenths of his estate for the founding of a public library, the bequest to take effect upon his wife's death. Mrs. Jervis died on May 14, 1894, and steps were at once taken towards carrying out the provisions of the will. Mr. Jervis left minute directions for the erection of a library building, but his heirs finally decided

to turn the family residence over to the board for library purposes, in lieu of \$20,000 of the legacy. The offer was accepted, and on January 10, the Jervis Library Association was organized. On January 22, the estate was distributed, the share of the library association being \$147,219.46, and the work of altering the building, buying and classifying books, was at once begun. Mr. Jervis left his own private library of 2449 v. to the city; the library of B. J. Beach, of 3000 v., was loaned to the association for five years; the school library of about 1000 v. was transferred to the same body, and about 2000 new books were bought, giving the library a total of about 8000 v. The library will be open every week-day from 10-12 a.m., 2-30-6, and 7-30-9 p.m. Free access to the shelves is granted.

Salisbury, Ct. Scoville L. The Scoville Library was formally opened on July 11, before an audience of about 400 people. It is the successor of several libraries established from time to time in the town, extending back to 1771, and originating in the Smith Library, founded by a Loyalist before the Revolution. The present library association was organized in 1892, in order to receive and use the bequest of Jonathan Scoville, who left the sum of \$12,000 for a town library. Mr. Scoville was a native of Salisbury, who removed with his brother, Nathaniel Church Scoville, to Buffalo before the war, and made there a large fortune in the iron business. He was Congressman from that district several times, and succeeded Grover Cleveland in the mayoralty of Buffalo. His bequest was largely added to by the widow and children of N. C. Scoville, so that it was possible to erect a beautiful and spacious building.

The building was designed by Stone, Carpenter & Willson, of Providence. It is of Norman architecture, built of gray limestone quarried in the vicinity. It contains a reading-room, an auditorium, and a tower which contains the book-room below and a clock and chimes above. The clock was made by the E. Howard Company, has four dials, and strikes the quarters and hours. The chime is an adaptation from a refrain in Wagner's "Parsifal." The number of books is about 3000, many of them recently purchased. The reading-room is supplied with the leading periodicals. The cost of the building and furnishing is about \$25,000.

Southport, Ct. Pequot L. (Rpt.) Added 5275; total 6609. Issued, home use 11,112 (fict. 73%, including juv. fict.; juv., 26%). New cards issued 314; total registration 627; reading-room attendance 16,721.

Springfield (Mass.) City L. A. (34th rpt.) Added 3601; total 90,544. Issued, home use 150,796 (fict. 79,924); hall use 30,007; visitors to reading-room 56,105 (Sunday attendance 4619). New cards issued 1720; total registration 18,356. Receipts \$23,105.74; expenses \$20,406.68.

"We have spoken from year to year of the relation between the library and the schools; we are gratified to say that this relation is be-

coming more and more intimate, and the study of books for school purposes by teachers and pupils more thorough and systematic, and this study results not only in the improvement of the work of the schools, but also in giving the pupils familiarity with the use of books, and habits of independent investigation which will be likely to lead them to prosecute their studies after their school life ends. Moreover, the reading of such books as are recommended to the pupils for use in their school work constantly creates a taste for a better class of books for general reading than would otherwise be chosen, and thus a higher class of literature finds its way into the homes of the city. It is a noteworthy fact that the percentage of fiction given out in our library has been reduced by the pupils in our schools.

"The lower story of the library building is now in process of reconstruction. The old museum room is being fitted up with steel stacks for the reception of the popular department of the library, and will be made the delivery-room for the circulating department. The reading-room has been enlarged by connecting with it the janitor's room, and these rooms, together with the hall, are being supplied with steel ceilings. The whole of the walls and wood-work will be thoroughly renovated and painted. It is proposed to expend about \$6500 in this work of reconstruction and improvement. These changes will provide room for the better arrangement of books in the upper hall, and will leave it free from the confusion incident to the coming and going of the multitudes that throng the library on busy days. These changes will furnish greatly increased facilities for the use of the reference department for purposes of special investigation and study, which is so important a function of the library. Opportunity will be given also to place a larger number of the more important reference books where they can be easily accessible to the people. It will be necessary to renumber and recatalog the books transferred to the lower room, and this will involve the necessity of closing the library, or at least some portion of the circulating department, for a time."

The new art building is rapidly nearing completion and the museum, heretofore stored in the library building, has been removed to its new quarters.

Mr. Rice concludes his report with an interesting summary of the history and work of the library. He thus sums up the work accomplished since its organization in 1857: "We have sent out into the families of the city since the library was opened 2,490,812 volumes. Besides this outside circulation we have supplied during the years since the record of hall use has been kept, 137,300 persons with books for reading and special study; and about 417,500 volumes have been given out. Moreover, since the free reading-room was opened in the fall of 1882 it has been visited by more than 430,000 persons, and in addition to the papers read, of which no record has been kept, 317,000 of the higher class of periodicals — the magazines, scientific journals and reviews — have been given from the desk."

Washington, D. C., Congressional L. An investigation of the accounts of Ainsworth R. Spofford, librarian of the Congressional Library, was inaugurated some weeks since by the treasury authorities, and is still in progress. When the accounts of the library for the year and a half ending April 1, 1895, were received by the government auditor, they were found to be in considerable confusion, showing an apparent discrepancy between the fees for copyright received at the library and the sum covered into the treasury. The deficit is undoubtedly due to the complicated and unbusinesslike methods that overpressure of work and lack of proper clerical force have entailed upon the library of congress. The immense copyright business and the entire work of the library itself are performed by a force of 45 employees, hardly enough for a single one of these departments. It is probable that the present investigation into the condition of affairs will result in a general reorganization, the employment of an adequate force, and the appropriation of a more liberal income. Mr. Spofford intends to present a plan of relief in a recommendation to congress at its coming session. "This plan," he says, "is for the establishment of a separate bureau or division for the registering of copyrights. As it is now, the librarian has about four times as much work as one man can get through with. It is no small task to manage the largest library in the United States, to oversee all the work of cataloging and the receipt of new books, as well as to keep informed so as to supply congress, officials of the government, and the public with such information as the librarian is constantly being called upon to furnish. In addition to this there is the supervision of the matter of copyrights. This latter involves a great deal of labor and an immense amount of details. There is no inherent reason why this should be in the charge of the librarian, and I shall recommend to congress that a special officer be provided for this department of the work of the library. He should be a bonded officer, but he should not be detached from the library, for the reason that the library depends for its growth largely upon the books which are received for copyright."

Washington (D. C.) F. L. The Washington City Free Library was incorporated July 5, under the laws of the District of Columbia. In accordance with the provisions of the articles of incorporation, nine trustees have been chosen for the first year. They are: Judge A. B. Hagner, Gardner G. Hubbard, Miss Josephine A. Clark, S. M. Woodward, General J. K. McCammon, General A. W. Greely, Dr. C. Hart Merriam, Dr. Robert Reyburn, and W. A. DeCandry.

Pending the adoption of by-laws to govern the corporation, the following temporary organization was made: chairman, General A. W. Greely; first vice-chairman, Judge A. B. Hagner; second vice-chairman, S. M. Woodward; treasurer, W. A. DeCandry; secretary, Oliver L. Fassig.

A little over \$10,000 have thus far been subscribed towards the establishment of the free li-

brary. The intention is to secure temporary quarters at once and prepare for an opening of the library early in the coming fall.

Westford, Mass. The contract has been awarded for the J. V. Fletcher Library of Westford, and it is thought that the building will be completed within a year. The library is erected chiefly from a gift of \$10,000 by Mr. J. V. Fletcher, of Belmont, Mass., a native of Westford, this sum being supplemented by \$5000 and a site, given by the town. The building, as planned, will be two-storied, 54 feet front by 61 feet deep, including an ell 25 x 42, which will be devoted to the book-stack. It will be classic in style, of buff brick, with underpinnings of granite and trimmings of terra-cotta.

The entrance arch, 9 feet, will open upon a porch 4 x 10, and this in turn will give access, through folding-doors, to a vestibule 5 x 9, wainscoted in marble. Through a second set of folding-doors one will enter the delivery room 11 x 23, the delivery desk occupying the end farthest from the entrance. At the right is to be a reading-room, 19 x 21, having a corner fireplace, and in the rear of this a reference-room 12 x 19. On the left of the delivery-room will be a conversation-room, 17 x 19, also having a fireplace, and in the rear of this a room for the librarian and a toilet-room.

The ell devoted to the book-stack will be 15 feet high, so that a second tier of bookcases may be put in at any time by constructing a grating floor.

The second floor will have an art gallery, 31 x 33, the ceiling panelled and the central portion coved, giving a height of 15 feet; a relic-room 16 x 19, and a committee-room 13 x 7.

The rooms on the first floor will be finished in quartered oak, the ceilings deeply panelled, the large floor timbers being utilized to produce a very attractive appearance. The second story finish will be of cypress.

FOREIGN.

St. Johns (N. B.) P. L. (13th rpt.) Added 419; total 10,039. Issued 28,167. New card-holders 278; total registration 3518. Receipts \$2,201.88; expenses \$2,020.97.

Gifts and Bequests.

Corinna, Me. A public building, to be known as the Stewart Library building, is to be erected in Corinna by Hon. D. D. Stewart, of St. Albans, Levi M. Stewart, of Minnesota, and Mrs. J. H. Winchester, as a memorial to their father, "Elder" Stewart, of Corinna. The building will stand upon the old Stewart farm site, and is to comprise library rooms, town offices, town hall or lecture-room, with stage, etc.

Greenwich, Ct. The foundations have been laid of the new library building, given to Greenwich by Mrs. A. A. Anderson, of New York. The site was purchased by the town, \$11,800 having been raised for the purpose by subscription. The building will cost about \$25,000; will have a frontage of 73 feet and a depth of 30

feet, and is to be built of cream white brick with trimmings of Indiana limestone. Quartered oak will be used in finishing the interior, the huge beams lending a cathedral-like effect.

The library is to be in the classic style of architecture, with high colonnade entrance and pedimental front in stone. It faces west, and the entire south end, having south, east and west windows, will form the reading-room. This room will be 14 feet high, with a central dome, the top of which will be 22 feet from the floor. The north end of the building will be the stack-room, the metal stack system being used throughout and so arranged that a mezzanine balcony can be added; there will be a book capacity of 16,000 v. The two rooms will be separated by the large hall, the connecting openings being through a classic colonnade of Ionic columns. This hall will serve as delivery-room and will have a fireplace of carved white stone. The ceiling will be supported by an open roof of ornamental truss beams of oak. The annex will contain toilet-rooms and a room for the librarian, as well as one for the trustees, the latter to be used for study by those so inclined.

The library of the town now contains about 4000 v., and is a subscription library, an annual fee of \$2 being charged. It is hoped that when the new building is erected the fee can be abolished and the library conducted by the town on a free basis.

Norwood, Mass. A public library building is to be given to Norwood by Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Morrill, of that town, as a memorial to their daughter. A site has already been purchased by Mr. Morrill, and though plans have not yet been made public, it is said that the building will be a handsome granite structure.

Oshkosh, Wis. The will of the late Mrs. A. S. Harris, of Oshkosh, leaves to that city a bequest for a public library, hedged in, however, by what may prove an impracticable condition. After bequeathing a few legacies to friends and relatives, Mrs. Harris left the remainder of her estate, estimated at \$50,000, to three persons—Col. Gabriel Bouck, Orville Beach, and Mrs. M. A. Olcott—to be held in trust for the purpose of founding and maintaining perpetually a public library; provided that within three years the city of Oshkosh, or any citizens, raise an equal amount for the same purpose. If such an amount is not provided within the period, the estate reverts to the heirs of Mrs. Harris and her husband.

St. Augustine, Fla. J. M. Wilson, of Framingham, Mass., offered, on June 22, to give to the St. Augustine F. P. L. Association a handsome and suitable library building. The building in question has long been a landmark of historic interest as the residence of the Spanish governors. It was purchased by Mr. Wilson some months since, and it is his intention "after making the necessary changes to adapt it to its future uses, to turn it over to the trustees for the benefit of the Free Public Library Association."

Librarians.

CHAMPLIN, G. G., a graduate of the N. Y. State Library School (class of '95) has accepted a position with the Library Bureau, 146 Franklin st., Boston.

CHURCHMAN, Miss Anna L., died at her home in Indianapolis on July 27, of typhoid fever. Miss Churchman was a member of the American Library Association although not connected with any library, and she attended the Lake Placid Conference. She had many friends among members of the association and in library circles, and was much interested in library matters.

CUTLER, Miss Louisa Salome, librarian of the Utica (N. Y.) Public Library, died at her residence in Utica, on Friday, August 2, after a short illness.

NELSON, Miss Martha Furber, who for several years has been librarian of the Union Library at Trenton, N. J., has been appointed librarian of the State Normal, Training and Model Schools, at the same place. Miss Nelson will enter upon the duties of her new position in September. She will also be instructor in bibliography.

OVERHOLTZER, Mrs. Rosa Allen, has been elected librarian of the Sioux City (Ia.) Public Library, succeeding Miss Esther Crawford, who resigns to complete her course in the N. Y. State Library School. Mrs. Overholzer has been identified with the library life of Sioux City for many years. She was a member of the board of trustees of the public library from its first appointment, until Miss Crawford gave notice of her desire not to be considered a candidate for re-election, and since June she has been at Amherst attending Mr. Fletcher's summer school and preparing herself for her new duties. Her term of office begins Sept. 1.

MOORE, Miss Evva L., was elected librarian of the Withers Public Library, Bloomington, Ill., on July 6. Miss Moore, who is a graduate of the library class of Armour Institute, was engaged in 1894 to reorganize and catalog the Bloomington Library when it was transferred to the city by the local library association.

SARGENT, Miss Abby L., for the past four years librarian of the Middlesex Mechanics Association, has accepted a position as assistant in the Medford Public Library, which she is to reclassify on Cutter's expansive system.

The Lowell *Courier* says: "She will be greatly missed in Lowell. Patrons of the Mechanics Association library, especially those engaged in the investigation of some particular subject, have found her assistance always readily given and always of great value. She has shown also an especially wise discretion in the selection and management of the books for children and young people. The work of the library has been hampered the last few years by circumstances which are familiar to every one, but the members of the association have long recognized that the good work which the library has, in spite of its financial difficulties, been able to do, is the result almost entirely of Miss Sargent's helpfulness and efficiency as a librarian. Her resignation is a serious loss to the association."

Cataloging and Classification.

CARNEGIE F. L., *Alleghany, Pa.* Classified catalogue of the books, except fiction, French and German, in the library: class-list, author-index, subject-index.

Title-a-line list; Dewey class and Cutter author numbers. "In the class-list a medium title is given and in the author-index merely a 'catch' title; only the surname of the author is given in the class-list, except where two or more similar surnames occur together. As the catalog has been some six months in printing and will be out of date when completed most of the important additions to the library within that time have been inserted in the author-index whenever that was possible, although not entered in the class-list. In use of capitals the A. L. A. rules have been followed pretty closely in the class-list, but in the author-list capitals have been used somewhat arbitrarily, and no claim to consistency is made." Printed on manila paper. The catalog is too bulky for convenient or easy handling.

CLERKENWELL (*Eng.*) P. L. Class-guide to fiction and juvenile literature. 1895. 84 p. D. 3d.

Brought up to May, 1895. Contains title lists of adult and juvenile fiction, the latter including also general juvenile books, followed by a "topical index," which gives a rough clue to novels on special subjects, or those dealing with special countries. The birthplace and dates of birth and death are given in the case of the more important authors, and there are abundant brief annotations. Books in the adult list, but suitable for children, are starred; the same sign in the juvenile list indicates books adapted for girls; sequels and connected books are noted by numbers.

DAVIES, J. F. Librarian of the Butte (Mont.) P. L., has a short article giving titles and notes of good books for "Summer reading" in the *Montana Educator* of June.

DES MOINES (*Ia.*) P. L. Bulletin No. 1: additions of June, 1895. 16 p. O.

Lists about 550 v. added to the library during June, and contains also an article citing good books for summer reading, and short notes on new books and library matters. This is the first publication of the kind attempted by any Iowa library, and it is a most creditable one.

ENOCH PRATT F. L. of Baltimore. Finding list of books and periodicals in the branch libraries. July, 1895. 166 p. O. 15c.

— Bulletin, issued quarterly, July 1, 1895: additions to the Central library. 34 p. O.

FOSTER'S MONTHLY REFERENCE LISTS (Providence P. L. *Bulletin*) for July cover "Roads, pavement and street cleaning" and "Outdoor life, chiefly in New England."

N. Y. F. C. L. Catalogue of the George Bruce Branch at 226 W. 42d st. English books. N. Y., April, 1895. 182 p. O.

Contains a classed catalog (Dewey classification); fiction (including translations) author-list; fiction title-list, juvenile fiction author-list; juvenile fiction title-list; fiction author-list and title-list of additions, January, 1893 - February, 1895; juvenile author-list and title-list of additions for same period; author-index, including index to biography; and subject-index. Title-a-liner; two columns to a page; printed on white paper. The main fiction and juvenile lists, subject and author indexes, are in leaded brevier, the former with call-numbers and first word of entry in heavy face, making a clear, attractive page; the classed catalog and supplementary fiction and juvenile lists, however, are in "solid" brevier, with authors' names in capitals, the contents of series being given in solid nonpareil, an arrangement that gives these divisions a closely packed appearance that is tiresome to the eyes, and unattractive.

The NEWARK (N. J.) P. L. *News* for July - August is devoted to a "Verzeichniss der Deutschen bucher" and a "Liste des livres Français" added to the library since January, 1894.

OSTERHOUT F. L. *Wilkesbarre, Pa.* Catalogue of music in the library. 1895. 20 p. O. 5 c.

Comprises titles in the catalog of 1889 and all later additions; includes reference works, musical periodicals, books on the history, theory and criticism of music, and librettos.

The *Library Newsletter* (Osterhout F. L.) for July has a pleasant article, citing good "books for reading aloud."

The PHILADELPHIA P. L. has issued since June, 1894, a bulletin entitled *Monthly Notes*, devoted to articles on bibliographical subjects, lists, etc. A classed "List of books in the branches" of the library was begun in the issue of July, 1894, and is still in continuation. A list of books in the Wagner Reference Library was begun in December. "Pedagogy" is the subject of a paper, by Dr. Edward Brooks, in the issues of September and October, which is supplemented by a classed bibliography in the October number, covering educational psychology, methods of instruction, school economy, history of education, etc.

The SALEM (Mass.) P. L. BULLETIN for July has classed reading lists on "Heraldry, chivalry, etc." and "Arctic regions."

The SPRINGFIELD (Mass.) L. BULLETIN continues, in its June issue, the list of "Books relating to music" begun in the April number.

WALTHAM (Mass.) P. L. Special bulletin: American history, biography, and historical fiction. May, 1895. 32 p. O.

A classed list, including magazine articles, essays, etc., as well as books relating to the sub-

ject. Some carelessness in proof-reading is noticeable.

WILMINGTON (Del.) INSTITUTE F. L. Finding list of the circulating department, August, 1894. Part 1: Fiction; juvenile; biography; history, travel, and description; useful arts. 1894. 166 p. O.

Prefaced by a subject index; fiction and juveniles are given in title lists only; entries are made under real names, with references from pseudonyms.

— Finding list of the circulating department, July, 1895. Part 2: Philosophy; religion and mythology; sociology; science; fine arts; literature; appendix of all classes; reference and miscellaneous; authors; final additions to July 1, 1895. 335 p. O.

Similar in style and method to part 1; p. 124 - 239 are devoted to the author list, which includes all books in the library, save latest additions.

WOBURN (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin of accessions, March 1, 1895 - June 1, 1895; with conspectus of surveyors' plans. 24 p. O.

Fourteen pages (separately paged) are devoted to the "Conspectus of surveyors' plans in the Thompson collection" of the library, arranged alphabetically by name of owner, and giving location of land and year of survey.

FULL NAMES.

Kelley, James Prentice, author of "The law of service," pub. by Putnam in 1894. — N. E. B.

The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:

Bierstadt, Oscar Albert (The library of Robert Hoe);

Buchanan, E: Everett (Buchanan's tables of squares);

Cornellison, I: Amada (The relation of religion to civil government in the United States);

Dudley, W: R.; and Thurston, C: Orion (A catalogue of the flowering plants found in Lackawanna and Wyoming valleys);

Graham, G: Washington, and Alexander (Why North Carolinians believe in the Mecklenburg declaration of independence of May 20, 1775);

Harvey, Francis LeRoy, and Briggs, Fred Percy (Catalogue of the North American phenogams in the Blake herbarium);

Harvey, W: Hope (Coin's financial school);

Hodge F: Webb (The first discovered city of Cibola);

Holden, Ward Andrews (An outline of the embryology of the eye);

Houston, Edwin James, and Kennelly, Arthur Edwin (Electrical engineering leaflets);

Johnson, Homer Uri (From Dixie to Canada);

Judd, Jonathan R: (Always strong and happy);

Keeler, C: A; joint-author (On the natural history of the Farallon islands);

Mathews, Ferdinand Schuyler (Familiar flowers of field and garden).

Bibliography.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE de la Compagnie de Jésus. Bibliographie et histoire, par de Backer, Carayon, Nouv. éd. par C. Sommervogel. v. 6. Paris, A. Picard & Fils, 1895. 4°. 40 fr.

CATALOGUE de la bibliothèque de la Société des ingénieurs civils de France, au 1 Janvier, 1893. v. 2. Paris, 1895. 767 p. 8°.

COLERIDGE, S. T. A bibliography of Coleridge, by R. Herne Shepherd, the compiler of bibliographies of Ruskin, Swinburne, and others, was begun in *Notes and Queries*, of May 11, and completed in five successive instalments. It will be privately printed, revised, and augmented, in pamphlet form, early this autumn. The edition is limited, and for sale by the author, at Camberwell House, Camberwell, S. E., London.

FORSYTH, Walter Greenwood, and Harrison, Jos. Le Roy, comps. Guide to the study of James Abbott McNeill Whistler. Univ. of State of N. Y. State Library Bulletin. Bibliography no. 1, May, 1895.

A brief biography of Whistler is followed by lists of his etchings and paintings, with full references to criticisms and descriptions of his works.

GRISWOLD, W. M. Descriptive list of novels and tales dealing with the history of North America. Cambridge, Mass., W. M. Griswold, 1895. 101-183 p. O. pap., \$1.

The second part of the "Descriptive list of novels and tales dealing with ancient life"; chronological, with full descriptive notes.

HENSHAW, S. Bibliography of the more important contributions to American economic entomology. pt. 4. Washington, D. C., Gov. Print. Office, 1895. 167 p. O. (Agricultural Dept., Division of Entomology.)

KEYES, C. Rollin. Bibliography of North American paleontology, 1888-1892. Wash., D. C., Gov. Print. Office, 1894. 251 p. O. (Bulletin U. S. Geol. Survey, no. 121.) pap., 20 c.

LAMAISM. A list of books on Lamaism is given on p. 578-583 of L. A. Waddell's "Buddhism of Tibet" (N. Y., Scribner, 1895. \$12.60).

OESTERLEIN, R. Beschreibendes Verzeichniss des Richard Wagner-Museums in Wien. bd. 4: Katalog einer Richard Wagner-Bibliothek, 4 band. Eine Ergänzung zu band 1-3. Leipzig, Breitkopf & Härtel, 1895. 172 p. 8°. 5m.

PROCTOR, R. Jan van Doesborgh, printer at Antwerp: an essay in bibliography. London, printed for the Bibliographical Society at the Chiswick Press, 1894. 101 p. ll. 4°.

RAILROAD STRIKE OF 1894. A careful bibliography (3 p.) of the great railroad strike of 1894,

compiled by Francis Watts Lee, of the Boston P. L., is a feature of W. J. Ashley's "The railroad strike of 1894." (Cambridge, Mass., Church Social Union, 1895. 10 c.)

SCHULZE, P., and Koller, O. Bismarck-Literatur: bibliographische zusammenstellung aller bis ende März 1895 von und über Fürst Bismarck im Deutschen buchhandel erschienenen schriften, mit berücksichtigung der bekannteren ausländischen literatur. Leipzig, Gracklauer. 70 p. 8°, 3 m.

STOCKHOLM. K. BIBLIOTHEKET. Sveriges of-fentliga bibliotek: Stockholm, Upsala, Lund, Göteborg. Accessions-katalog, 9, 1894; utg. af K. Bib. genom E. W. Dahlgren, Stockh., 1895. 6+405 p. O.

STOCKHOLM. K. BIBLIOTHEKET. Arsberättelse för år 1894. Svenska historiska planscher [af Carl Snoilsky] 3 (1667-) 1669-1718. Stockh., 1895. 12+[2]+161-224 p. O.

Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

The following are supplied by F. Weitenkampf, Astor Library:

Clara Gazul—Prosper Mérimée, "who made his début in literature with the publication of two plays, which he issued as works of the Spanish actress Clara Gazul. Such an actress did not exist in reality; her portrait, which accompanied the book, was a likeness of Mérimée, dressed as a woman."—*N. Y. Staats-Zeitung*, O. 28, '94.

Daniel Lesueur—Mme. Jeanne Loiseau, in "Flancée," a play produced in Paris, 1894.—*N. Y. Times*, N. 4, '94.

Dr. Mises—Gustav Theodor Fechner, the noted German writer on psychophysics, who wrote satirical feuilletons under that name during 1821-32.—See his life by J. E. Kuntze (Leipzig, 1892), p. 58.

Kara Giorg—Gustav Brühl, who issued a little volume of poems under this name.—*N. Y. Staats-Zeitung*, Ja. 27, '95.

Marnac—Raymond D'Abzac, well-known feuilletonist of the *Figaro*, recently deceased in Paris.—*Internationale Literaturberichte*, O. 3, '94.

Matgici—Albert de Pouvoirville, according to the title-pages of his "Art indo-chinois" and "Tao de Lao-tseu."

L. S. Stevenson—R. L. Stevenson. "My first paper appeared just after I was 23, in *The Portfolio*, under the harmless anagram of L. S. Stevenson."—R. L. Stevenson, in letter to Mr. Iles.—*Critic*, D. 22, '94.

Van Deyssel—Karel Alberdingk Thijm, the "apostle of Dutch decadentism."—*Critic*, O. 20, '94.

Zeta—James Anthony Froude, in "Shadows of the clouds" (1847).—*N. Y. Tribune*, O. 21, '94.

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MELVIL DEWEY, *Director of N. Y. State Library, Albany, N. Y.*

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A. S. COLLINS, *Act. Librarian of Reynolds Library, Rochester, N. Y.*

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